



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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CONTENTS: Vol. LVIII. No. 22 (Series No. 1,114).

PAGE	PAGE
American Notes	896
An Old Business	884
Association Affairs	892
Bankruptcies and Failures	890
Bismuthion	883
Business Changes	877
Commercial Notes	875
Correspondence	897
Deaths	877
Deed of Arrangement	891
Editorial Comments:—	
Election Reflections	886
Infamous Conduct	887
Bribes and Tips	888
Notes	888
English News	870
French News	874
Gazette	891
Irish News	873
Legal Reports	890
Medical Exhibition	895
Midland Pharmaceutical Association	876
New Companies and Company News	891
North African Experiences	878
Observations and Reflections	885
Personalities	877
Pharmaceutical Fauna	884
Photographic Notes	889
Scientific Progress	884
Scotch News	873
South African News	875
Trade-marks Applied for	876
Trade Report	901
Westminster Wisdom	893

A GUINEA FOR A POSTCARD.

It is proposed to decorate the President of the Pharmaceutical Society in commemoration of the Jubilee thereof. We shall give a guinea for the most original suggestion or design—serious or otherwise—sent to us on a postcard by any subscriber or employed during the present month.

CIRCULARS AND PRICE LISTS.

HOW TO DISTRIBUTE THEM TO THE DRUG-TRADE.

MANY of the best advertisers in the drug-trade have endorsed our view that it is more effective as well as cheaper to distribute circulars and price-lists stitched up in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* than sending them singly by post. We make such insets in the *C. & D.* notable by the fact that we only receive them twice a year for distribution, and we ensure that they get into the hands of the right people. We would advise those who think of having an inset in our Summer number (July 27, 1901) to write to our Publisher for particulars. He will also give assistance in designing or arranging insets.

Summary.

BISMUTHION is described on p. 883.

THE NOVELTIES shown at the Medical Exhibition are described on p. 895.

THE RESULT of our Council-election Competition is announced on p. 888.

Two more chemist-companies have been registered since our last issue (p. 891).

MR. JOHNSON (Messrs. T. Merry & Son, Fenchurch Street, E.C.) figures as the camphor-bird on p. 884.

CAMPFORATED OIL figures as a poison this week, and other interesting items on poisons are printed on p. 872.

A FULLER REPORT of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association's annual meeting and dinner is printed on p. 876.

A VOLUNTEER-COMPOUNDER sends us a photograph of the R.A.M.C. field-dispensary at Talana Hill, Natal (p. 875).

THE NORTH BRITISH BRANCH of the Pharmaceutical Society has resumed the publication of its annual report (p. 873).

LORD AVEBURY is asking chemists' associations in favour of his Shops (Early-closing) Bill to petition Parliament to that effect (p. 892).

CARDIFF chemists find that the Conference books presented in 1891 are not so well cared for as they might be in the local library (p. 892).

A MYSTERIOUS FATALITY, which occurred at Walthamstow after a dose of bismuth mixture, has been investigated by the Coroner (p. 870).

SUBSCRIPTIONS to defray the expenses incurred in fighting and defeating the Pharmaceutical Council on the Minor fee by-law are invited (p. 874).

DR. CHARLES RICE, Chairman of the United States Pharmacopoeia Committee, is dead. A portrait and some particulars of his career are given on p. 877.

THOMAS ROPER & Co., wholesale druggists, Falcon Square, E.C., suspended payment forty-four years ago. A final dividend of $\frac{1}{4}d.$ has just been paid (p. 891).

THE PARISIAN Public-relief Department has discovered some peculiar points regarding the use of codeine and other expensive medicines in Paris hospitals (p. 874).

CALOMEL and iodoform in powder when exposed to sunlight interact with formation of mercuric iodide. The dispensing of such mixtures is discussed on p. 892.

THIS has been a broken week on the markets. Quinine is $\frac{1}{2}d.$ dearer "officially," and German refined camphor has moved up $\frac{1}{2}d.$; English almond oil is 2d. lower (p. 901).

SOME INTERESTING INFORMATION regarding the tsetse fly and horse-sickness in British East Africa are extracted from the report of Mr. Sturdy, the official veterinarian (p. 888).

THE points in trade-law noticed this week include Welsbach burner trade-mark, interfering with Shop-hours Act Inspectors, administration orders, and discharge without notice (p. 890).

THIS WEEK'S PHOTOGRAPHIC NOTES are devoted to developing, restraining, and toning. The fact is also recalled that rolls of sensitive films suitable for daylight loading were first described in 1855 (p. 889).

A SECOND PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION BILL has been introduced into the House of Lords by the Lord Chancellor. Its contents and also those of the late Lord Russell's Bill are summarised on p. 893, and we discuss the merits of both on p. 888.

SEVERAL COUNCIL-CANDIDATES return thanks for the support accorded to them at the Pharmaceutical Election last week (p. 897); and we show in an article on p. 886 that, with better concentration of voting, two other new candidates might have been returned.

MR. CLARIDGE DRUCE continues and concludes the account of his experiences in North Africa, describing the botany of Kharata, the town Bougie (with the interesting flora of the district), Fort National, Algiers and its pharmacies, and concluding with economic facts and Oxonian reflections (pp. 878-883).

A DEBATE took place in the House of Commons on May 23 regarding the appointment of Dr. Irvine, late of the Birmingham Consultative Institution, as a Government School Inspector; and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain scoffingly referred to the General Medical Council's action in the matter (p. 893 and p. 887).

DR. ALFRED HILL, in his annual report as public analyst for Birmingham, gives statistics regarding the samples taken during the year. He shows that the percentage of adulteration of drugs was lowest when supplied by registered persons and highest when supplied by companies. Other interesting facts are mentioned in the report, which we print at some length on p. 871.

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Mr. F. P. Pembleton has been appointed chemist and druggist to the Derby Board of Guardians.

Mr. Alfred Livesey, chemist, of the Drug-stores, Tenby, is again supplying the Corporation with disinfectants.

Dr. C. Killick Millard, of Burton-on-Trent, has been appointed public analyst and medical officer of Leicester.

Dr. A. Wellesley Harris has been appointed medical officer and public analyst for the borough of Lewisham. There were twenty-six applications.

On May 24, Arthur Causley, drysalter, Buxted, was fined 11s., including costs, for selling milk of sulphur certified as containing 40 per cent. of sulphate of lime.

At Wolverhampton on May 23, George Faulkner was remanded on a charge of breaking into the premises of Mr. Sidney Phillips, chemist and druggist, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton, and stealing 25l.

Sir John T. Brunner, M.P., and Dr. Ludwig Mond are just completing, for presentation to their workpeople at Winnington, Northwich, a combined pavilion, club-house, baths, concert-room, &c., at a cost of upwards of 10,000l. The opening ceremony will take place on June 1.

On May 24 the students of the Imperial College of Pharmacy, with Mr. F. Davis, their principal, visited Kew Gardens, where the principal natural orders, agaves, aloes, orchids, and the gigantic palms were studied, and a dish of tea was discussed in the old garden of Wisteria House.

The students of the Nottingham School of Pharmacy had a botanical excursion on Thursday, May 23, to Hoveringham Woods, where two hours were pleasantly and profitably spent. Later, and after a cup of tea, the students had a smoking-concert, and at 9.30 returned to Nottingham.

At a meeting of the Torquay Grocers' Association on May 21 it was reported that a deputation had conferred with the Chemists' Association relative to the pricing of certain articles, and the recommendation of the executive was that prices on the list of the chemists' and grocers' deputation should be adopted as far as possible. The recommendations were approved.

The students of the Leeds College of Pharmacy had their annual trip to Windermere on Monday, the subject for special study being vascular cryptogams. Many species of *Filices*, *Equisetaceae*, and *Lycopodiaceae* were found. The long journey was rendered comfortable by the provision of a saloon and a liberal supply of refreshments, the excursion being one of the best in the annals of the College.

The National Physical Laboratory.

At the Royal Institution on May 24, Mr. R. T. Glazebrook, M.A., F.R.S., director of the National Physical Laboratory since 1899, gave an account of the means at present at disposal for realising the aims of the National Laboratory "for standardising and verifying instruments, for testing materials, and for the determination of physical constants" suggested by Lord Rayleigh's Committee in 1895, and which is to be located at Bushey House, Teddington. Funds are much desired, and even with all the help the committee had in freedom from rent and taxes, outside repairs, and maintenance, the sum at its disposal is too small; 14,000l. will not build and equip the laboratory, and 4,000l. a year will not maintain it as it ought to be maintained. Is there no one, Professor Glazebrook asks, who, realising the importance of the alliance between science and industry, will come forward with more ample funds to start the laboratory with a fair prospect of success? Is there no statesman who can grasp the position and see that with double the income the chances of doing a great work would increase a hundredfold? Give the institution means to employ the best men and it will answer the difficult problems it has to solve; starve it,

and then quote its failure showing the uselessness of science applied to industry. Some of the problems of industry which still remain unsolved and which the laboratory hope to attack, are alloys, wind-pressure on bridges and similar structures, the exact determination of the relations between the scales of the mercury, hydrogen, and electrical resistance thermometers, and the magnetic testing of specimens of iron and steel, besides the standardisation and calibration of various scientific instruments.

The Chemists and the Council.

At a meeting of the Camberwell Borough Council on May 24, Councillor Lane Mitchell brought up the question of the magnesia-ponderosa prosecutions recently instituted against chemists in the borough. The medical officer, questioned on the subject, said he did not intend to take further action in the matter; and Councillor George protested against Councillor Lane Mitchell "acting on behalf of one trade." If a chemist did not supply that which was asked for he should be just as amenable to the law as a cheesemonger. He was of opinion it was a far less harmless matter to sell margarine as a preparation of butter than one drug for another drug. The magnesia sold as magnesia-ponderosa cost no more than 8d. per lb., whereas the latter cost 2s. 4d. See what a difference there was in the profit.

The Hospital Mixture.

At an inquiry, held at Walthamstow on May 22, into the death of a 2-year-old child named Norman, it was stated that the mother had obtained from the Great Ormond Street hospital a bottle of medicine (for another child a few months old), the half of the contents of which the deceased child drank. Dr. Steele was called in, but the child died half an hour after taking the medicine, and Dr. Steele's opinion was that death was due to an irritant poison. The Coroner's officer reported that he had gone to the hospital for information concerning the mixture supplied, but could get none. The mother stated further that after giving the medicine to the baby for whom it was prescribed it had a fit, and Dr. Steele, who was sent for, advised her not to give any more. The inquest was adjourned for the attendance of the hospital officers, when Dr. Sydney Walter Curl said the medicine was made up according to the following formula:—

Carbonate of bismuth	...	...	3 gr.
Bicarbonate of soda	...	...	2 gr.
Compd. tragacanth powder	...	...	1½ gr.
Spt. of chloroform	...	...	2 minims
Caraway-water	...	...	1 dr.

The dose was 1 dr. twice a day, and there was nothing in the medicine to cause irritation. Mr. J. W. Pack, pharmacist at the hospital, said there were three dispensers. The medicine in question was made up in quantities of 4 gals. about three times a fortnight. The poisons are kept in separate cupboards. The Coroner (Dr. Ambrose) could not see how the medicine could cause death, neither could Dr. Steele understand it. Subnitrate of bismuth had been known to cause death, he said, but not the carbonate. Mr. Pack explained that a certain amount of subnitrate of bismuth (!) was used, but most of it in the mixture would become carbonate. The mixture had been used in the hospital for the past ten years, and no previous case like that had occurred. In answer to a juror the Coroner said the contents of the bottle had not been analysed. Returning to the question of the hospital authorities refusing information to his officer, the Coroner told Dr. Curl to convey to the hospital officers the fact that they had caused a considerable amount of expense to the county, and inconvenience to the jury, by withholding information. Dr. Curl said he knew nothing of the matter. Mr. Pack, in further examination, said he dispensed the medicine from the card, and kept no record of it. The card was taken away by the mother. There were 2,000 out-patients a week in addition to the indoor work, and it would be almost impossible to copy all the prescriptions. He did not think any other hospital kept a record of the prescriptions. The Coroner retorted that that was only saying that every hospital was as bad as theirs. Ultimately the jury returned a verdict that the child died from an irritant poison administered by mistake. The Coroner's parting shot to Dr. Curl was: You may take it back to the hospital that we do not think they helped us very much in the matter.

Birmingham Notes.

A fire occurred at the works of the Progress Company (Limited), wholesale druggists, drysalts, &c., Fazeley Street, last week, and considerable damage was done.

The hospital dispensary at Hockley has been enlarged at a cost of 500*l.*, amongst the donors being members of the Cadbury family. The dispenser is a lady, Miss Williams, of Moseley.

Reduced rates—the handiwork of our pharmaceutical town councillor—*plus* higher assessments are the great complaint of our large central pharmaceutical and other establishments. It is contemplated that relief will only be found by removal outside the borough.

In some pharmacies in this district there are penny-in-the-slot weighing-machines and strength-testers. It does not seem to have occurred to the proprietors thereof that a machine to distribute pen'orths of borax, jalap, "hickra pickra," antibilious pills, and zinc ointment might be of value in time-saving.

Pharmacy seems to be receiving a rude shaking in our city lately. Many changes have been recently recorded, and faces well known to the local Association will be known no more. It is stated that Mr. Prosser has relinquished the directorship of the Midland Apothecaries' Company, which until recently was in pharmaceutical hands entirely.

Dr. Alfred Hill, medical officer of health and analyst for the city, in his annual report, states that seven of sixty-one samples of drugs examined during the year were found to be adulterated. Forty-one samples were bought from registered chemists, nine from unregistered persons, and eleven from companies. The number of the adulterated samples in these classes were:—Registered persons, three samples, or 7 per cent.; unregistered persons, one sample, or 11 per cent.; companies, three samples, or 27 per cent. The proportion of adulteration, Dr. Hill proceeds, was very much less than in any recent year since 1892. This, he suggests, may be partly accounted for by the fact that this year the inspector has asked for each drug "prepared according to the British Pharmacopœia." For the repression of adulteration, Dr. Hill says that articles should be asked for under their ordinary names, otherwise the vendor is warned at once that the article is required for analysis, and will be careful not to sell an article which he suspects or knows to be adulterated. With many qualified chemists the method of asking will make no difference to the article supplied; but he thinks there are many persons who, for instance, have an article which they would readily sell as Friar's balsam which they would refuse to sell as "compound tincture of benzoin, prepared according to the British Pharmacopœia," and in many cases these are just the persons who are selling inferior drugs and carrying on illegitimate competition. Five samples were submitted as seidlitz-powders. The four white powders of one sample contained from 14 gr. to 22 gr. of tartaric acid, instead of 38 gr. The four blue powders contained from 116 gr. to 137 gr., instead of 160 gr. Each powder, on an average, contained 39 gr. of Rochelle salt instead of 120 gr., while the cheaper ingredient, bicarbonate of soda, was in excess—85 gr. being present instead of 40 gr. The powders were wrong both in quantity and quality, and very unevenly divided. What made the matter worse was that each pair of powders was labelled as follows:—

CAUTION TO THE PUBLIC.—Thousands of boxes of a common imitation of the genuine seidlitz-powders are being sold by unprincipled traders for the sake of extra profit. We guarantee all our powders to be genuine.

The vendor, who is not a qualified chemist, was fined 10*l.* and 9*s.* costs, a fine which (adds Dr. Hill), considering the scandalous nature of the offence, did not err on the side of severity. Six samples were purchased under the Pharmacopœia name of "effervescent tartarated-soda powders." The white powders of one sample contained from 30 to 34 gr. of tartaric acid instead of 38 gr., while the blue powders were practically correct in composition. A fine of 1*l.* and 10*s.* costs was inflicted by the Magistrates. The blue powders of the remaining nine samples were very uniformly divided, thirty of the thirty-six powders being within 5 gr. of 160 gr., one powder contained 147 gr. only, and five powders had from 166 to 169 gr. In each case the bicar-

bonate of soda and Rochelle salt were present in the proper proportions, or nearly so. The tartaric acid was not so well divided: one paper contained 33 gr., six from 41 to 43 gr., and one had 44 gr., one 45 gr., and the remaining twenty-five contained from 36 to 40 gr. of tartaric acid. The whole of the nineteen samples of compound tincture of benzoin received were of the full alcoholic strength, or nearly so, and sixteen were of satisfactory quality, containing from 16.9 to 20.1 grammes of solid extract per 100 cubic centimetres. The samples were somewhat deficient in extract, and two—or 11 per cent. of the whole—were adulterated. During the previous five years 20 per cent. of the samples of compound tincture of benzoin analysed in Birmingham were adulterated. The first of the two adulterated samples was obtained from the same vendor as a sample of adulterated effervescent tartarated-soda powders and of camphorated oil. The vendor of the second sample had been fined in 1895 for adulterated tincture of senna. Three samples of tincture of iodine contained from 24 to 26 grammes per litre of iodine and iodide of potassium. One sample was much too strong, and another was very weak in iodine. Eight of the ten samples of camphorated oil received contained camphor in correct B.P. proportion. One sample when received contained a decided deposit of solid camphor, which dissolved after gentle warming; 25 per cent. of camphor was found to be present in excess. This sample was very unsatisfactory, but he felt he could hardly certify it as adulterated. Another sample, purchased from the vendor of the adulterated compound tincture of benzoin, was 22 per cent. deficient in camphor, and the vendor was fined 20*l.* and costs. All the samples had been prepared with olive oil. The proportion of adulteration—one sample out of ten—is a great improvement on previous years. In 1897 four samples out of fifteen were adulterated, and ten out of thirty-two in 1899. Twenty-eight of the samples of camphorated oil analysed in England and Wales during 1899 were adulterated. Five samples of milk of sulphur, four samples of paregoric, and three samples of compound tincture of rhubarb were all found to be genuine. Six of nineteen samples of baking-powder contained alum, and the vendors were prosecuted. The thirteen samples free from alum had been prepared from bicarbonate of soda, tartaric acid, and rice-flour. The use of both boric acid and formic aldehyde as preservative has increased.

Fires.

On May 25 a destructive fire occurred at the premises of Messrs. H. B. Alder & Co., colour-manufacturers, of Church Row, Limehouse, and a large amount of damage had been done both to the premises and stock.

Last week a fire broke out at 11 Richmond Street, Plaistow, occupied by Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company (Limited), and a laboratory and contents on the first floor were considerably damaged by fire and water. The fire was caused by sheep-dip boiling over.

A fire occurred on May 25 at the Wigg Chemical-works, Runcorn, belonging to the United Alkali Company, and damage was done to the extent of 25,000*l.* The plant for the production of cyanide of sodium was totally destroyed, but the workmen and firemen, by their strenuous efforts, prevented the fire from spreading to other parts of the works. Although there were several explosions no injuries are reported.

On May 26 a fire broke out in the shop of Mr. F. G. Walton, chemist, at 64 Bilston Street, Wolverhampton. It originated in a room at the rear of the premises, and it is supposed to have been caused by the ignition of some paraffin. The flames spread with extraordinary rapidity until they reached the front shop, and soon afterwards the whole building was enveloped. The fire-brigade was soon upon the scene, but damage to the extent of 500*l.* was done before the outbreak was subdued.

Drugs in Staffordshire.

At the quarterly meeting of Staffordshire County Council the public analyst, Mr. E. W. T. Jones, F.I.C., reported that he had only one complaint to make regarding the drugs analysed last quarter. That concerned a prescription which called for 2 gr. per ounce of sulphate of quinine, and the sample only contained 1.66 gr., a deficiency of 17 per cent.

The analyst added: "Of course, it is very important that all prescriptions should be made up correctly, and happily my experience is that they generally are so."

A Busy Week.

Mr. G. Claridge Druce, pharmaceutical chemist, President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, and Mayor of Oxford, must be a fairly busy man. We submit a few items culled from last week's issue of the *Oxford Chronicle*, which seem to indicate that time cannot hang heavy on the genial pharmacist's hands:—

Friday (May 17).—Reception and luncheon (at which Mr. Druce presided) of Volunteers, belonging to the 2nd Oxon and 1st Bucks Volunteer Companies, returned from South Africa.

Saturday.—Seconded a resolution to support the Lord Mayor of London's fund for a national memorial to Queen Victoria at a public meeting of the County, City, and University of Oxford.

Monday.—Lectured to the Cheltenham Society of Natural Science on "Arboreal Vegetation."

Tuesday.—Exhibited his collection of all the known British species and varieties of rushes at a *conversazione* held under the auspices of the Oxford University Junior Scientific Club. In the evening replied for "The Guests" at the dinner of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in the Hôtel Métropole, London.

Wednesday.—Presided at a special meeting of the Oxfordshire Natural History Society and Field Club, of which he has for many years been an active member, to consider a scheme of amalgamation with the Ashmolean Society.

Mr. Druce's doings on Thursday of last week are, as far as we can discover, not chronicled; but on Friday we observe that he was engaged in administering justice to various undergraduate and other delinquents in Oxford City Police Court.

The Supply of Workhouse Drugs.

The East Preston (Sussex) Board of Guardians on May 21 discussed an application from the medical officer (Dr. G. A. Laphorn) for an increase in his salary to cover the cost of drugs and medicines. The Local Government Board wrote that their experience had led them to the conclusion that it is desirable in the interests of the sick poor that all medicines and drugs should be supplied at the cost of the Guardians. Accordingly, they requested the Guardians to consider the question of arranging to pay for the drugs used on being furnished by the medical officer with a quarterly statement of the quantities supplied. A member suggested that the doctor's salary be increased and the Board find the drugs themselves. Another member inquired on what principle were the drugs to be paid for: should the Board pay the actual cost of the drugs, or what the doctor liked to charge them? Eventually the matter was referred to a committee for consideration.

Cricket.

A fixture in the Wholesale Druggists' League competition was played on May 25, at Stamford Hill, between the Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. C.C. and the Dakin Bros. C.C. Scores:—B.W. & Co., 125; Dakin Bros., 20. Messrs. Hookham (24), Herbert (20), and Mace (35) batted well for the winners, for whom also Gordon Cowen took 6 wickets for 11 and Purton 3 for 4 runs.

Chemist-naturalists.

Among the members of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club, who recently held their first outdoor meeting at Hexham and Chollerford, are Messrs. J. P. and John Gibson, of Hexham, and Mr. J. L. Newbigin, of Alnwick. The Roman Camp, Cilurnum, was visited, and Mr. J. P. Gibson gave a great deal of interesting information to the visitors. Mr. Gibson has made the Roman Wall an object of study for many years past.

Liverpool Medical Fellowship open to Americans.

Mr. James Boyle, U.S. Consul at Liverpool, has informed his Government that the "international fellowship" in University College, Liverpool, founded by Mr. William Johnston, shipowner, of Liverpool, to commemorate the late John W. Garrett, of Baltimore, U.S.A., and called "The John W. Garrett International Fellowship in Pathology and Physiology," is open to members of universities and medical schools in the United States, without, however, absolutely precluding members of other foreign schools. The value of

the fellowship is 100*l.* a year. Mr. Johnston has also founded a "colonial fellowship" in pathology and bacteriology, of the same value as the "international fellowship," open to members of British colonial universities and medical colleges.

Refusing to Serve the Inspectors.

On May 23, at a meeting of the Court of Common Council, a petition was read from the Sanitary Inspectors' (who are Food and Drugs Acts Inspectors) Association asking the Corporation to place the Guildhall at the disposal of the Association for three or four days in August or September for holding their annual conference, and asking the Corporation "to honour the Association, and the representatives of municipalities who would attend, with such civic entertainment as in the opinion of the Court the importance of the occasion merited." (Cries of "Oh!") It was unanimously decided that the petition should lie on the table.

The Week's Poisonings.

Twelve fatalities are reported this week, seven of which are due to scheduled poisons, one to death under ether, and four to poisons not on the schedule. Carbolic acid and laudanum caused three deaths each, and vermin-killer (containing strychnine) another.—At an inquest held at the Westminster Coroner's Court upon the body of Emily Cook, who died from the effects of opium-poisoning, the evidence of Mr. Wm. Geo. Sapsed, chemist, of 24 Sloane Street, Chelsea, was to the effect that deceased asked him for "2 oz. of laudanum." He asked what it was wanted for, and she replied, "For pain," adding that she had taken it for years in small doses. He warned her to be careful, and she answered, "You need not trouble, I shall take every precaution." He supplied the 2 oz. A Juror: Do you frequently sell so large a quantity? Witness: Frequently I have, sir. The Coroner: For some assigned purpose? Witness: Yes. The Coroner: Without a prescription? Witness: Yes. A Juror: Did you enter that amount in the poisons-book? Witness: No. The jury, in returning an open verdict, added a rider to the effect that greater care ought to be taken in supplying large quantities of poison without some proper regard to the danger which might accrue, and the fact that this sale was not entered in the poisons-book does not commend itself to the jury. The Coroner said there must always be a great difficulty, as he did not think that any amount of legislation would ever provide for all risks. If a man made up his mind to commit suicide he would do it in some way. The Foreman: Yes, sir; but we wish to minimise the opportunities. The Coroner: Your suggestion would minimise the risks, undoubtedly; but this poison comes in Part 2 of the schedule, and there is no necessity to enter it in the poisons-book.—Amongst the unscheduled poisons hydrochloric acid was used in two cases, bichromate of potassium and camphorated oil in one case each.—At an inquest at the Kensal Road Coroner's Court on May 28 on a woman named Rosina H. Wigon the evidence showed that the hydrochloric acid which the woman drank by mistake was stored in a gin-bottle. The jury were of opinion that all poisons should be kept in special bottles and under lock and key.—At Tottenham an inquiry respecting the death of Archibald George Hall, aged 3 years, was held. The mother stated that the deceased drank camphorated oil, and within half-an-hour he was seized with convulsions, and died seven hours later. A Juror: I never knew that camphorated oil was a poison before. Why, I often take camphor myself. Dr. John Spears stated that the cause of death was convulsions, set up by irritation of the stomach due to drinking the camphorated oil. Questioned by the jury, witness said that 5 gr. of camphor had been known to kill, whilst 20 gr. had been taken by some people with impunity.

ACCORDING to the British Consul's report on the foreign trade of Japan for 1900 drugs and chemicals of the value of 177,715*l.* were imported into that country during the year, against 328,496*l.* for the corresponding period of 1899. The chief items for last year were:—Alcohol, 13,480*l.*; caustic soda, 94,889*l.*; and chloride of potash, 69,346*l.* The report also states: "Camphor exported from Japan in 1900 represented a considerable increase in quantity and in value, the latter being especially noteworthy."

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Dispenser's Appointment.

Mr. John McMahon has been appointed dispenser to the Limerick Workhouse at a salary, approved by the L.G.B., of 80% a year. Mr. McMahon is to visit the workhouse twice daily.

A Fatality.

At Limerick on Saturday evening last, whilst a man named Renehan, employed in the establishment of Messrs. J. P. Evans & Co., druggists, was engaged at some work in the stores at Robert Street a windlass which he was using suddenly and unexpectedly revolved, and the handle struck him on the head with such force that he died immediately.

Medicine-contract Notes.

The Local Government Board have written to the Duncannon Guardians that the Guardians will not be recouped for the supply of medical appliances as they are being supplied by a local firm which does not usually deal in such articles. The Clerk said that about 21% would be lost to the Board of Guardians if the local contract was adhered to—that is, the sum refunded by the Local Government Board would amount to that. The Guardians decided to ask the Local Government Board to allow the present arrangement to continue for a year to see how it would work.

At the last meeting of the Westport Board of Guardians the Clerk stated that Mr. White, medicine-contractor, had refused to send on medicines until he was paid a balance of 18% 8s. 6d., alleged to be due to him. The Clerk said this was not so, as the amount was for bottles, jars, and casks, which Mr. White was bound to take back. Dr. Birmingham said he was seriously inconvenienced by not having medicine; the requisition was sent on to Mr. White on April 14. The Board ordered that the Clerk write to the Local Government Board asking them to terminate Mr. White's contract, and that then the medicines be ordered from the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, the proprietors of which had sent in the next lowest tender. It was also ordered that Mr. White should return the requisitions sent to him.

Medical Officers' Duties.

Dr. Crean, medical officer of the Clonmel Union, has informed the Guardians that whilst willing to keep a list of empty medicine-bottles for return to the contractors, he distinctly refuses to have anything to do with returning the empties. Dr. O'Flynn and several other medical men express themselves in similar terms. Pending the decision of the Local Government Board, the Guardians have transferred the work to the lunatic department of the Union.

Dr. Cronin has written the Navan Poor-law Guardians to the effect that he is not aware of any delay in sending samples of medicines for analysis, and asks whether he should send on the samples immediately on receipt from the contractor. He has been referred to the rules for the guidance of medical officers, which show that on receipt each consignment of drugs should be weighed, and samples at once sent to the clerk of the Union for analysis.

ONE part of formalin to 40 of water gives a 1-per-cent. solution of formaldehyde. A formula easy to remember is: Formalin, 1 oz.; water, 2½ pints.

THE KOLA-NUT IN NATAL.—According to the report for the year 1900 of Mr. J. M. Wood, of the Natal Botanic Gardens, the *Cola acuminata* will not grow in Natal, the soil and climate being unsuitable for the growth of the tree. All the plants experimented with have died.

THE NORTH BRITISH BRANCH of the Pharmaceutical Society has resumed the publication of the Annual Report in full. During the past week all the members of the Society in Scotland have received a nomination paper to which the full text of the Executive's Report is attached. This report was submitted to the Council in May, and was published in abstract in the *C. & D.*, May 4.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Keep an Eye on the Till.

Taking advantage of the quiet which reigns in establishments of Dundee suburban chemists' at certain hours of the day, a thief with "silent" shoes has been engaged in relieving various side-shelves and tills of their contents. The nimble-fingered gentleman is still at large, so may be expected to try again.

Official Aqua.

Dundee fresh-water has had a decidedly "trouty" or drouthy flavour lately, whichever way you like to take it. Some unspecified alga seems to flourish periodically in Lintrathen during dry summer weather, and the result is a water of a fishy odour and taste which does not blend well with some of the contents of the poison-cupboard.

Poisoned by Salt of Sorrel.

A man named McIlwraith committed suicide in Glasgow, on May 25, by drinking a quantity of salt of sorrel. He informed a constable of what he had done soon after drinking the poison, and a paper containing a small quantity of salt of sorrel, and bearing the address of a doctor in the Cowcaddens, was found in his possession. He was removed to the Royal Infirmary, and died there about an hour later.

Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association.

The annual excursion of this Association will be held on June 12, when arrangements have been made for a visit to the historical district of Melrose. The party will leave the Waverley station at 9.10 A.M., arriving at Melrose about 10.45. Dinner at 1 o'clock in the George Hotel, after which brakes will convey the company to Dryburgh Abbey. Tickets (11s. each) and full particulars may be had from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. F. Henry, 1 Brandon Terrace, Edinburgh.

The Sale of Poisons.

Chemists in certain parts of Dundee and neighbourhood having experienced difficulty in persuading customers that the law will not permit poisonous preparations to be sold in any cup or bottle offered, the Forfarshire and District Chemists' Association has issued a notice explaining that, in consequence of many accidents having followed from putting carbolic acid and other poisonous liquids into ordinary domestic and medicine bottles, the law requires poisonous lotions, liniments, &c., to be sold in special "poison" bottles.

Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club.

The annual sports in connection with this club will be held on June 5 at Tynecastle Park, Dalry Road, Edinburgh. The proceedings will last from 6.45 to 9 P.M., and the club have prepared a splendid programme for their patrons, cycle-racing, foot-racing, five-a-side football final tie, and a tug-of-war competition being among the attractions. Pharmacists have entered in large numbers for the various competitions, and an excellent evening's sport should result.

The preliminary ties of the five-a-side football competition for the Anderson Challenge Cup were played on May 23, when forty of the club's members competed in the various ties. The result of the first round was as follows:—

Macfarlane & Co. beat Inman (Limited) by one goal to nil.
Smith & Co. beat Harkness, Beaumont & Co. by one goal to nil, after a draw.
Raimes, Clark & Co. beat Duncan, Flockhart & Co. (retail) by three goals to nil.
Duncan, Flockhart & Co. (wholesale) beat Mackay & Co. by one point to nil.

The final tie to be played at the sports is arousing great enthusiasm in the local drug-trade.

The Minor Fee By-law.

The case of *Strachan v. the Pharmaceutical Society*, which established in the Court of Session the contention that a candidate who becomes ill during the Minor examination is entitled to be re-examined for 1s., has cost those who were backing the plaintiff a considerable sum beyond the costs allowed by the Court. In consequence, a circular has this week been issued appealing for subscriptions towards wiping off these costs and the expenses incurred in connection with the petition to the Privy Council, which secured the delay in the adoption of the proposed new by-laws, thereby avoiding the foreclosing of the question. The combined expenses amount to about 45*l*. The question being one of special interest to pharmacy students, it has been suggested that the principals of schools of pharmacy might not be unwilling to allow a shilling subscription-list to be opened in their establishments. It is proposed that any balance remaining over shall be handed over to the Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society, but it might just as well be kept as the nucleus of a fund to meet future contingencies of a similar nature. The circular is signed by Messrs. J. Bowman (Leith), W. B. Cowie (Edinburgh), W. L. Currie (Glasgow), William Doig (Dundee), J. A. Forret (Edinburgh), C. F. Henry (Edinburgh), W. R. Kermath (St. Andrews), C. A. Macpherson (Edinburgh), Geo. F. Merson (Newcastle-on-Tyne), Alex. Spence (Linlithgow), J. Tocher (Dumfries), A. Strachan (Aberdeen), and W. S. Glass, Hon. Treasurer, 35 George Street, Edinburgh, to whom subscriptions should be sent.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

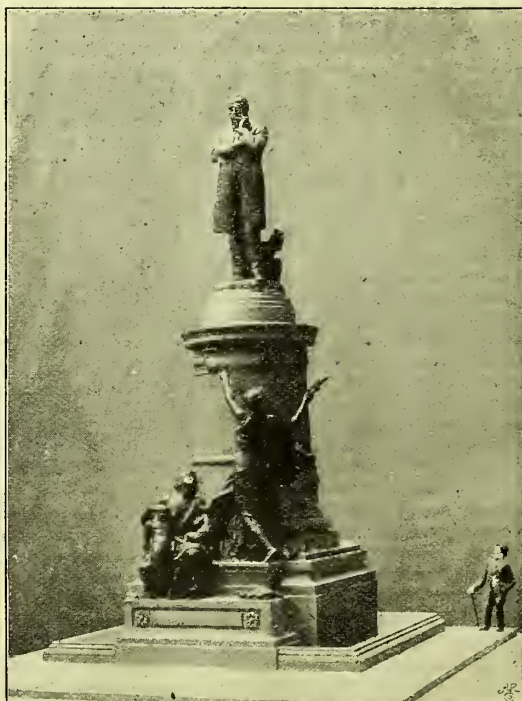
COLONIAL PLANTS.—An interesting botanical exhibition was opened last Sunday in the large conservatory known as the Winter Garden at the Paris Museum of Natural History. It consists of a collection of plants that have been found to be useful in the French colonies—or, rather, the most delicate tropical ones that would suffer from exposure to the air, those of a more robust nature being exhibited at the annual show of the National Society of Horticulture now being held in the Tuileries Gardens.

ECCENTRIC PHARMACISTS.—A Swiss pharmacist, M. Rieter, has bequeathed 1,000,000*f*. to charitable works. He was a bachelor, and had never been seen to cross the threshold of his door. Having on one occasion agreed to take part in a banquet, he discovered at the last moment that he had no hat, and consequently stayed at home. Another strange character was Bernard Derosne, the elder, also a millionaire pharmacist (in francs), and one of the principals of the great firm of Cail. One day, desiring a change, he told his family he would dine out that day, and at once sent his valet for a cab. When the cab came and Derosne wished to mount, the cabby said to him roughly, "Get off, a gentleman has engaged me!" "I know," replied Derosne, "that gentleman is my servant." "Your servant!" exclaimed the cabby, "I should think it must rather be you who are his servant, for he is better dressed than you!" The fact was the good-natured Bernard Derosne always dressed with rustic simplicity, but this did not prevent his being one of the most intellectual men of his period.

AN EXPANDING NOSE.—A rather curious incident is reported from Perpignan. A captain of Artillery was afflicted with a very unusual mania. He had the conviction that his nose had suddenly acquired a propensity for expanding, being one day of less than normal size and the next becoming atrociously large. He first of all consulted a pharmacien of the town, who suggested biliousness and recommended a simple diet for a time, but finding the captain's hallucination continued, although on all other matters he seemed to be perfectly sane, the pharmacien urgently suggested that he should consult a physician. The officer did so, but derived no benefit from the advice received. The climax came a few days ago, when the captain received an order to call on his colonel. At headquarters he was placed under arrest, and subsequently removed to a lunatic asylum. The captain is much grieved at his fate, and declares that within a month he will be as mad as the other inmates of the asylum, but he still insists that his nose expands. This

reminds me of a man who used to come to the pharmacy of my apprentice days. His particular mania was that he saw angels, and he was so violent when anyone doubted his second sight that he had to be incarcerated until the angels took their departure, for they came and went periodically, otherwise he was as mild a man as ever stepped.

A QUESTION OF ECONOMY.—The General Secretary of the Paris Public Relief Department (M. Thillon), who is at present acting as director, has addressed a circular to the physicians, surgeons, and heads of service of the Paris hospitals, relative to the use of high-priced drugs and medicines, suggesting the possibility of considerable economies under these heads. He draws attention to the fact that certain substances used in therapeutics of recent years reach prices that are quasi-fabulous, giving as examples pilocarpine at 3,000*f*. per kilo., musk at 4,500*f*., homatropine at 20,000*f*., crystallised digitalin at 30,000*f*., ergotinine at 35,000*f*., and other medicinal substances of high price. M. Thillon expresses the opinion that most of these substances may be replaced, without detriment, by others much less expensive, in dispensing medicines for hospital-patients—for example, tincture of jaborandi instead of pilocarpine, or morphine hydrochloride (at 250*f*. per kilo.) would replace codeine. This opinion has the support of a committee of hospital physicians and pharmacists, including M. Prunier, Director of the Central Pharmacy of the Paris Hospitals, who have been studying the question. Striking examples of waste are said to have been pointed out. One quoted is that of a medical student who, at one of the morning consultations at a hospital, prescribed as many as eighty preparations containing a syrup of codeine, but a doctor who went through the prescriptions afterwards reduced the number to eight. In the course of twelve years the amount of codeine used has gone up from 2 to 12 kilos. Alcoholic preparations, seem, however, to take the palm as the favourite medicines amongst the prescribing physicians, and possibly also amongst a certain class of patients. Camphorated spirit of wine figured at 50,000*f*. last year in the Central Hospital Pharmacy accounts, and various tinctures at 25,000*f*. Rum was also largely used. The circular concludes by recommending economy to the hospitals in the matter of drugs and high-priced pharmaceutical preparations, but of course without allowing the patients to be thereby in any way the sufferers.



MONUMENT TO PASTEUR BY M. ANTONIN CARLES (SCULPTOR) AND M. CHIFLOT (ARCHITECT), TO BE ERRECTED AT DÔLE.

South African News.

(From our Colonial Correspondents.)

MR. ALEXANDER CLEGHORN, dispensing chemist, is rebuilding his premises in Hout Street, Cape Town.

SOAP MADE AT THE FRONT.—A correspondent tells of a Hollander doctor, at Warmbaths, who recently made 70 lbs. of soap out of some brackish earth found near Pietersburg merely by boiling it with fat. The existence of alkali in the Transvaal will, perhaps, be of greater interest to the British who settle there than to the present inhabitants.

A CHARGE OF 'ARSON' DISMISSED.—A chemist, named E. Korne, was brought before the Special Criminal Court at Johannesburg recently, charged with wilfully setting fire to his house and furniture, with intent to defraud the Manchester Fire Insurance Company. The Court found there was a doubt in the matter, and the charge was dismissed. The furniture was insured for 600%.

NATAL FOOD AND DRUGS BILL.—In the Natal Government *Gazette* for the week ending April 27 there appeared a draft Bill entitled "A Bill to Deal with the Adulteration of Food and Drugs." The Bill deals with the usual adulterations and contraventions of the Bill, and proposes to appoint analysts, or any proper person under Government control suitable for conducting analyses. A Food and Drugs Act has been in force in Durban for some time, but, owing to its inefficiency and the difficulties attending the carrying out of its provisions, the Corporation has recommended that the Government should introduce a Bill for the whole colony.

AN ARMY DISPENSARY.—By the last South African mail we received from Mr. W. E. Cartwright, Volunteer compounder serving in the 5th division of the Field hospital at Dundee and Natal, a photograph of the surgery and dispensary in which he works there. The photograph was not



A FIELD-PHARMACY OF THE R.A.M.C.

a very distinct one, as Talana Hill, which forms the background, has disappeared in the course of reproduction. Mr. Cartwright is the figure to the right of the picture, and the gentleman to the left is Corporal Miller, of the R.A.M.C. Mr. Cartwright says:—

We have been in camp here now for some time, and have about 120 beds in the hospital, but we do not lodge many sick, as we receive them from the district round in large numbers, and send most down country. Just lately we have received a lot from French's column, which has been operating near here, and to-day 130 came in. I sometimes get a chance to see the old familiar *C. & D.* (back numbers), kindly lent me by Mr. Ross, a chemist, down the town here, who had to serve the Boers and dispense for them, &c., during their occupation of Dundee. Sometimes when I am in his shop talking, and customers come in, the prices he manages to get fairly make me turn green or khaki (which is a more fashionable colour out here) with envy, and I think of the old times one hears so much talked about, but has seldom seen. I shall not be sorry when it is all over, and I can get back to business once more, as camp-life grows very monotonous.

Commercial Notes.

GERMAN CHEMICAL DIVIDENDS.—The report of the Chemische Fabrik von Heyden, Radebeul, near Dresden, states that during the past year the amount realised by preparations sold was 6,910,295m., against 5,850,239m. in the previous year. The net profit was 839,929m. The new business which has been established in America, under the name of the Heyden Chemical-works, Garfield, with a capital of \$150,000, commenced working at the end of the year with the manufacture of a few preparations, and has since produced satisfactory results. A dividend of 15 per cent. was declared—the same as in the previous year.

INDIAN OPIUM IN CHINA.—Acting Consul-General E. H. Fraser, in his report on the foreign trade of Hankow for 1900, states that "a steady decline in the importation of Indian opium continues. Malwa is not half the 1895 figure, and Patna has lost one-third in the same period. The supply of native opium cannot be gathered from the Customs tables, as practically all the dry drug recorded therein is re-exported to Shanghai and other coast ports, to which places alone it is cheaper to ship by that channel." During the year 174,712 cwt. of medicines, of the value of 155,360l., were exported from Hankow, against 192,193 cwt., worth 172,295l., in 1899.

MARKET FOR SOAP IN SPAIN.—The American Consul-General at Barcelona states that the manufacture of soap in Spain has greatly increased during late years, the large exports of Cuba having fostered this industry, and enabled it to acquire an importance that but for that outlet it would never have reached. Especially was this the case before the loss of the colonies, for in 1897 Spain exported 7,045 tons to her dependencies and only 112 tons to other countries. During 1900 the exports amounted to 6,107 tons, while those for the first two months of this year reached 1,792 tons. In the Province of Barcelona alone there are over one hundred soap-factories. Coconut-oil forms one of the principal ingredients of the soap made in Barcelona, the cocoanuts or copra being brought from the Pacific Islands, and crushed at the oil-mills. Vegetable oils were formerly imported, but owing to the high protective duties now levied on them the principal firm in the Spanish trade found it necessary to cross the frontier and erect a mill at Barcelona in order to compete with the local oil-crushers. Caustic soda of 60° strength is imported from England; the present price is 23.65f. per 100 kilos. c.i.f. Barcelona. The price at which the common yellow soap is sold for export is equal to about 1½d. per lb. delivered f.o.b. at Barcelona.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY IN HUNGARY.—The Hungarian Apotheker Society recently commissioned a committee to consider the question of establishing a State chemico-pharmaceutical factory. It was suggested that a few of the younger chemists should be sent to Germany to complete their studies, after which they might be appointed managers of a factory under the control of a company or association. Another suggestion was that negotiations should be made with a German, French, or English chemical-factory, with a view to the establishment of a branch in Hungary, partly manned by Hungarians, or that the Government should at first entrust a few of the younger chemists with the manufacture of the simpler preparations, and that an association be formed to manufacture the rest, which might be associated with the Kochmeister factory in Alt Afen. The committee came to the conclusion that the establishment of the proposed institution was not feasible. Apart from the question as to whether the country possesses adequate commercial and technical means for carrying it on, it was considered doubtful whether one single undertaking would be able to compete with the highly developed foreign industry (especially if German). A gradual steady development of the industry is, therefore, considered the most practical, and it is advised that the smaller chemical-trade undertakings should perfect themselves in some special direction, and that they should be supported in their endeavours by the State and apotheker profession.

MRS. ESSAI, wife of the manager of the Adelphi Hotel at Byculla, was poisoned by inadvertently taking an overdose of chlorodyne.

Midland Pharmaceutical Association.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

of the members of this Association was held on May 22 at the Great Western Hotel, Birmingham, Mr. John Barclay, B.Sc. (the President), in the chair. In his speech, in moving the approval of the report, he commented on the apathy and indifference of the members to the work of the Association, as demonstrated by the sparse attendance at the lectures during the past session. He briefly reviewed the work of the session, and mentioned that, through the kindness of Professor J. Humphreys, the members were enabled to make an inspection of the Dental Museum at the University. The membership had slightly increased, and if steps were taken for the provision of permanent offices it would be necessary to have an increased subscription. Perhaps the provision of premises of their own would induce chemists to take a keener interest in the work of the Association, particularly, he thought, among the assistants, who had now no association of their own.

Mr. Jeffrey Poole seconded the proposition, which was supported by Mr. Thomas Barclay, who remarked that there was no reason for discouragement. If any question arose affecting the trade, he felt confident the members would quickly awake to their responsibilities.

The report of the scrutineers showed that all the old members of Council had been re-elected with the exception of Mr. Spilsbury. At

THE DINNER

which followed Mr. John Barclay presided, and he was supported by Mr. Thomas Barclay, Professor Humphreys, Dr. Hall Edwards (who has recently returned from South Africa), Messrs. F. H. Alcock, C. Thompson, Gerrard, Perry, G. H. Brunt (Hon. Secretary), Dr. Robertson, Dr. Satchell, F. H. Gibson (Wolverhampton), J. Poole, and others. After the toast of "The King" had been drunk, Mr. Gerrard proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society." Although the Council, he said, had not done so well as some people expected, their intentions were honest. An election had taken place, and he hoped some new blood had been introduced: some men of independent views who would not fear to put them forward. As an examiner for many years he assured them that in that department of the Council work they were desirous of doing the best they could for the Association, and for the pupils. They read a good deal in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* about the harshness of the examination, but there were two sides to that question, though unfortunately his hands were tied. The Bill now before Parliament, he believed, met with general approval from pharmacists; in any case, whether it failed or not, he was convinced it was put forward with the best intentions. Mr. F. J. Gibson, in responding to the toast, gave the Society credit for all the benefits which pharmacists now enjoyed. Mr. Thomas Barclay, in proposing "The Medical Profession," paid a high tribute to their generosity by giving gratuitous services to the hospitals. He expressed gratification that the authorities of Birmingham University had made special provision for the culture of the medical profession. Dr. Hall Edwards acknowledged the toast, and mentioned that in Cape Town, Kimberley, and Pretoria nearly every other shop was a chemist's, and at Cape Town they seemed to be doing a very thriving business. The dispensary with which he was associated at "the front" was most thoroughly equipped. While the British officer, he said, was ready to face the Boer bullets he would go two miles out of his way to escape an enteric cottage. Mr. Perry, proposing "The Dental Profession," observed that ideal conditions existed as between the dentist and the pharmacist. Professor Humphreys, in reply, acknowledged the indebtedness of his profession to the pharmacist, and spoke of the immense strides pharmacy has made as a profession, whereby blue pills and black draughts had given place to elegant and artistic preparations in tabloids, pills, &c.—pleasant to the eye and to the taste. Mr. Poole gave "The health of the President," and Mr. Barclay acknowledged. The speeches were interspersed with a capital musical programme.

Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1*l.*, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," May 8, 1901.)

Combination of devices (the essential particular); for a medicine. By Juan José Vivas Perez, 9 Promenade del Principe, Almeria, Spain. 236,313.

Circular device (showing football passing between goal-posts) and the word "LEZA" (the essential particular); for an ointment. By W. Hazelton, 1 North Road, Bloomfield, Belfast. 237,177.

"SANFLOMBINA"; for tooth-stopping. By B. Mende, Gutenbergstrasse 15, Wienböhla, Saxony. 237,153.

"EGSO" (no claim for "Eggs"); for a confectionery-colouring. By Baker & Co., Manchester (Limited), 78 Hanover Street, Corporation Street, Manchester. 237,053.

"TIXIA" (no claim for "Tic"); for a tooth-powder. By W. F. Whitmore, Aiskew, Bedale, Yorks. 236,568.

Picture of a tilted hand-cart; for perfumery and toilet-articles. By W. Gossage & Sons (Limited), Widnes. 237,093.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," May 15, 1901.)

"VASIMENT" (no claim for "Vass"); for chemical substances. By W. Poppelreuter, 54 Portland Street, Manchester. 236,733.

"CHLOROLENE" (no claim for "Chloro" or "Chloral"); for articles in Class 3. By T. Kerfoot & Co., Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs. 236,805.

"ICHTHOSAPOL"; for goods in Class 3. By Ichthyol Gesellschaft Cordes, Hermannn & Co., 21 Bohnenstrasse, Hamburg. 237,310.

YUM-YUM; for perfumery and toilet articles. By Vinolia Company (Limited), Malden Crescent, N.W. 235,879.

"BORALLA"; for perfumery and toilet articles. By G. H. Saunders, 50 Grove Road, Eastbourne. 237,203.

Device of wineglass; for perfumery and toilet articles. By W. Gossage & Sons (Limited), Widnes. 237,443.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," May 22, 1901.)

"WYLIE'S THREE POPLAR BRAND" and device; for chemical substances. By Wylie & Co., 6 Dowgate Hill, Cannon Street, E.C. 236,166.

"CALPHOSFER"; for veterinary medicine. By E. A. Hollingham, Southdown Villas, Hailsham. 236,850.

"RECORDINE"; for an embrocation. By W. G. George, 20 Tremlett Grove, London, N. 232,569.

"CASCOROIDS" (no claim for "Cascara" or "Cascar"); for medicinal preparations. By F. H. Dusart, 85 High Street, Lewes. 235,583.

"FENNINGS' COOLING-POWDERS" and wording; for medicine. By Alfred Fennings, Victoria Road, Cowes, I.W. 235,784.

"JUICO"; for goods in Class 3. By Armour & Co., 205 La Salle Street, Chicago. 236,711.

"ELECTROMENT" (no claim for "Electro"); for ointment. By T. Campbell Cross, Larbert, N.B. 236,742.

"PEPTOPER" (no claim for "Pepto"); for a medicinal preparation. By F. H. Dusart, 85 High Street, Lewes. 237,465.

"CASCARETS" and device (no claim for "Cascara"); for medicine. By the Sterling Remedy Company, Trude Building, Chicago. 237,487.

"STRENBO"; for extracts of meat. By the Strenbo Company, 64 Corporation Street, Manchester. 235,354.

Device of clock-tower; for powdered fruit-essences. By R. Fry & Co. (Limited), 21 Middle Street, Brighton. 237,446.

Signature; for mineral and aerated waters. By Buchanan & Sons, 13 River Terrace, Ayr. 235,420.

"SALUTINE" (no claim for "Salut"); for perfumery and toilet-articles. By A. Gravier, 148 Avenue du Roule, Neuilly, France. 237,709.

Deaths.

GOULTER.—At Bristol, on May 14, Mr. William Cornley Goulter, chemist and druggist. Aged 76.

JONES.—On May 18, Mr. John Jones, Crawshawbooth, chemist and druggist. Aged 69.

MAYS.—At South Shields, on May 17, Mr. Alfred Mays, South Shields, chemist and druggist. Aged 52. Mr. Mays was a son of the late Mr. R. J. J. Mays, the founder of the firm of R. J. J. Mays & Son, chemists and druggists, Market Place, South Shields, and he succeeded his father in the business.

PATON.—At 5 Merchiston Park, Edinburgh, on May 26, Christina Finlay, wife of Mr. James Paton, pharmaceutical chemist, Edinburgh.

RICE.—At Bellevue Hospital, New York, on May 13, Dr. Charles Rice, Chairman of the Committee of Revision and Publication of the United States Pharmacopœia. Aged 60. The death of this eminent pharmacist and philologist was due to cancer of the throat. He had been ailing for some time, but few knew that his ill-health was due to the fatal malady, and his death came as a shock to American pharmacists.

Dr. Rice was born in Munich in 1841, but before he was 20 his parents died, and he came to England for a brief stay before going out to the United States. In 1862 he became a naval apothecary, and served well in this position for three years, when he was discharged, and returned to New York to become assistant apothecary at the Bellevue Hospital. He subsequently succeeded to the position of chief apothecary.

Since 1867 he had been closely identified with pharmaceutical education and reform in the United States, and since 1870 had directly interested himself in, the revision of the United States Pharmacopœia. He was chairman of the committee for the 1880 and 1890 editions and was, we believe, still acting on the 1900 one. In this capacity the importance of his services has been universal rather than American. He was an accomplished—indeed, a rare—linguist, and, with the object of perfecting the Pharmacopœia, he corresponded with prominent pharmacists and chemists in every civilised country. His powers of organisation were exceptionally high, and his indomitable perseverance and consummate tact enabled him to secure from members of the committees the highest and best services. In 1879 the University of New York conferred upon Dr. Rice the honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Some of our readers may remember that it was he who, a quarter of a century ago, started the smart little paper entitled *New Remedies* which has since, under the editorship of Mr. C. A. Mayo and Mr. T. J. Keenan, developed into one of the leading organs of the American drug-trade—the *American Druggist*. Mr. Keenan (a Dundonian) was assistant apothecary at the Bellevue Hospital for some time. Dr. Rice also edited the *Proceedings of the American Pharmaceutical Association* for a year, and had done much other literary work. During all this time, since 1865, he had been superintending the pharmaceutical department of the Bellevue Hospital, which is one of the finest equipped and most perfect of its kind in the world. He was an honorary member of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, and had served the New York College of Pharmacy in several honorary capacities for over thirty years.



RICHARDSON.—On May 16, Mr. Joseph Richardson, chemist and druggist, Leicester. Aged 57.

SCOTT.—At Tenby, on May 23, Mr. William Henry Scott, of Brentwood, Rochdale, chemist and druggist. Aged 59. Mr. Scott had been in failing health for some time past, and a few weeks ago retired from business. He had gone to Tenby with a family party for the benefit of his health, but died next day after his arrival. Mr. Scott was the eldest son of the late Mr. William Andrew Scott, who carried on a chemist's and druggist's business in Drake Street, Rochdale. For the management of this he was soon mainly responsible, his father devoting the greater part of his time to public affairs. For the past thirty years the business was carried on at the Observer Buildings, and when Mr. Scott retired it was the oldest concern of its kind in the town, having been conducted by father and son for sixty-six years. The funeral took place on May 25 at Rochdale Cemetery.

SELLORS.—On May 9, Mr. Blanchard Frederick Sellors, chemist and druggist, Tewkesbury. Aged 54.

Business Changes.

MR. W. J. CAMPBELL has disposed of his business at 236 Hilltown, Dundee.

MR. W. CLARKE has bought the business lately carried on by Mr. H. G. Sewell at 730 Old Kent Road, S.E.

MR. A. J. K. PATERSON, chemist and druggist, Victoria Road, Dundee, having fallen into bad health, has retired from business.

MR. J. P. INCH, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business in High Street, Barnstaple, lately carried on by Mr. F. Marks.

THE business carried on at Nantwich Road, Crewe, by Mr. A. W. E. Donellan, chemist and druggist, has been purchased by Mr. Alex. S. Galloway, to whom the wine-and-spirit licence attached to the business was transferred on May 21.

Personalities.

MR. M. PROSSER DAVIES, pharmaceutical chemist, whose business at Tenby was some time ago purchased by Messrs. Joseph & Co. (Limited), has returned from New South Wales, and is now in London.

MR. A. F. LONGDON, J.P., of the firm of Messrs. F. Longdon & Co. (Limited), surgical-bandage manufacturers, Agard Street, Derby, has been elected a member of the Council of Derby Chamber of Commerce.

RETURNED FROM THE FRONT.—Sergeant Frank L. Briggs has recently returned from active service in South Africa, where he has been in charge of a volunteer section attached to the 26th Field Company of the Royal Engineers, who accompanied the general advance under Lord Roberts from Bloemfontein to Pretoria. Sergeant Briggs has been just over a year in South Africa, and has been in seven engagements. Before leaving this country he was town and country traveller for Mr. A. Berliner, cotton-wool and dressings manufacturer, of 13 to 15 Worship Street, E.C. This gentleman has kept open the position, and Mr. Briggs resumes his duties again in a few days.

MR. FRANCIS J. S. HOPWOOD, C.B., C.M.G., has been appointed Permanent Secretary to the Board of Trade, in place of the late Sir Courtenay Boyle. Mr. Hopwood entered the Board of Trade in 1886, as assistant law clerk, during the presidency of the late Mr. Edward Stanhope. In 1888 Sir Michael Hicks-Beach appointed him assistant solicitor, and he subsequently became Private Secretary to the President. When, in 1893, the late Sir Courtenay Boyle succeeded Sir Henry Calcraft as Permanent Secretary, Mr. Hopwood was appointed Secretary to the Railway Department. Mr. Hopwood acted as Honorary Secretary to the Chairman of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the Jameson Raid, and has also on several occasions been entrusted with official business in the United States, Canada, and Newfoundland.

North African Experiences.

By G. CLARIDGE DRUCE, M.A., F.L.S.

The author has previously described his visit to Tunis, Carthage, Le Bordo, Constantine, Biskra, Timegad, Lambessa, and left Batna at 6 A.M. for Setif. He now takes up this journey and concludes the narrative.

FROM Batna we journeyed northwards, passing Les Lacs, which are two salt marshes where quantities of *Salicornia*, *Salsola*, and other desert plants are found, and where salt is largely collected. We saw it being carried away on camels in large quantities. These salt marshes are the haunt of flamingoes and many other interesting species of bird. El-Guerrah, about 90 kilometres, from Batna, was next reached, where we had a rather hurried but fairly good dinner. From this place, which is the junction for the railway to Algiers, we turned off at right-angles in a westerly direction for about 120 kilometres, to Setif; but the railway cannot be very straight, for I saw the Belt of Orion shining now through one and now through another side of the carriage-windows. We got to Setif some time after 12 at night, and it was nearly 2 before we had ensconced ourselves in bed. Setif, 3,573 feet above sea-level, although once the site of one of the most important Roman towns in North Africa, is an entirely modern town, with wide straight streets and handsome shops, especially the pharmacies, where Eastman's Films, and other photographic appliances could be obtained. The barracks accommodate about 3,000 soldiers, who appear to considerably assist the pharmacist's business. The town has four gates. Outside the western one a large market is held, in which many thousands of Arabs from Kabylia, from the extensive plains, and even from the distant Sahara, meet to exchange their produce, and a very picturesque grouping was often seen. Many very handsome young horses were on sale. The country round yields good crops of cereals, and although the district is so elevated figs are grown in great quantities, as well as olives, plums, and apricots. We left Setif in a carriage drawn by two small but thoroughly good horses, through the Ponte de Bougie, for a drive to Kharata, or Kerrata, a distance of fifty-three kilometres. A good view was obtained of the snow-topped hills, and then we passed through a series of richly cultivated valleys until the fine peak of Mount Babor burst into view. I greatly regretted that I had not time to climb it, as it is extremely rich in flowers. At the Col de Ta Kitount we dismounted to give the horses a rest, but I could not be persuaded to drink the water from a ferruginous spring which has a very considerable local reputation for its curative and tonic properties. Above the village is the fort which resisted all the attempts of the Kabyles in 1871 to capture it. I got

AN HOUR'S BOTANISING

by the side of the river Oued Berd, where the bulbs of the squill grow to an immense size. In a pretty little wooded dell I got plants of the yellow Star of Bethlehem, which is probably *Gagea fibrosa*, the pretty little iridaceous flower of *Romulea Bulbocodium*, a typical Mediterranean species, and a blue Starch Hyacinth, probably *Muscari ramosum*. Here, too, was the bright yellow flowered *Sisymbrium amplexicaule* with the habit rather of an *Arabis*, which is locally abundant throughout the Kabylia mountains above 3,000 feet; and *Centaurea pullata* in one of its protean forms was in flower.

Kharata is splendidly situated at the entrance of the Chabet Gorge, about 1,300 feet above the sea-level. It is dominated by Mount Babor, 6,447 feet, and is to Algeria what Thuis is to the Via Mala. On my arrival I secured the aid of a young Arab lad to show me the wild monkeys which are found in the rocky woods, and a delightful walk we had through magnificent scenery, when suddenly he yelled "Voila, voila!" and there on the rocky cliffs were to be seen the Barbary apes. He made them very angry by mimicking them, and they sat and gibbered back in fine form, one old lady, with a young one clinging round her neck, being especially demonstrative. In a short time we had the gratification of seeing the vultures, and then, on a quantity of rock pigeons being driven by us out of a cliff, a raven swooped down and took a young pigeon from the nest.

Here I had the pleasure of gathering *Erodium baboranum*, an endemic species only quite recently described. Very fine *Alyssum maritimum* grew in the gorge, where the beautiful blue-flowered *Vinea media* was in great luxuriance. The slopes of the wooded cliffs were covered with the small palm, *Chamærops humilis*, or Doum, as the Arabs call it, while the handsome *Cyclamen atlanticum*, not yet in flower, grew in rocky crevices in the shade. The bright yellow flowers of *Doronicum scorpioides* adorned some of the banks, a beautiful yellow-flowered everlasting allied to *Helichrysum* *Stachas* grew on rocks overhanging the gorge, the yellow *Gagea* also occurred, as did a large blue-flowered *Iris* and the handsome *Senecio nobrodenis*. My Arab lad was very anxious, seeing I was interested in plants, to go up the cliffs, which were very rotten owing to the recent rain, to bring me a special flower which he called Thé, and which he thought must be welcome to me; it proved to be rosemary, and he told me that it was boiled in water, and if one had a headache you drank a cupful, and if you had a cold in the head, in addition to drinking some a cloth dipped in the hot decoction was bound round the head, "and there you were all right again."

Next morning I made an early start in order to walk through the gorge of the Chabet el-Akhira, which is probably the grandest pass in Algeria. It is about 7 kilometres long, and lies between two mountains from 6,000 to 7,000 feet in altitude. It is quite narrow, and the mountains rise up very steeply from the river. In the rocky woods above panthers, hyenas, jackals, and monkeys are still found. The forests are composed of considerable variety of trees but the most interesting are a beautiful pine (*P. baborensis*) allied to the Spanish *P. Pinsapo*, and a variety of the Cedar of Lebanon. The oak (*Quercus Mirbeckii*), and fine specimens of the cork oak (*Q. Suber*), with the evergreen oak (*Q. Ilex*) and a large undergrowth of shrubby plants such as *Ostrya alba*, *Coriaria myrtifolia*, and *Zizyphus Lotus*, are also found. At about half the distance through the gorge the road leaves the eastern for the western side of the stream by a curved bridge, with seven arches, from which a fine view is obtained; and as the gorge winds along every few yards presents a new and charming prospect of richly wooded hills or foaming cascades. Near the bridge the rocks completely overhang the road, and in some grottoes at their base magnificent fronds of the true maidenhair fern from 12 to 18 inches long are to be seen.

On the wall which guards the precipice plants of the little Rue-leaved Saxifrage were growing. I also noticed the large daisy (*Bellis sylvestris*), a fine buttercup with reniform leaves, *Valeriana tuberosa*, *Centranthus ruber* (or, as it should more properly be spelled, *Centranthus*, which is the red Valerian so well known as being naturalised on many of the chalk railway cuttings in Kent and Sussex), a yellow-flowered composite, *Andryala integrifolia*, a white anthemis (*A. pedunculata*), a dead nettle (*Lamium flexuosum*) very like our white dead nettle, the common bracken and also *Pteris longifolia*, several species of *Euphorbia* (*E. atlantica*, *E. semiumbellata*, *E. pubescens*), the handsome *Trachelium cœruleum*, the yellow-flowered *Jasminum frutescens*, the orange-flowered *Hypericum repens*, and the shrubby *Bupleurum fruticosum* (one of the few frutescent *Umbelliferae*), a single specimen of *Orehis longioruris* which has the labellum in the shape of a monkey (not the Barbary ape, for the flower shows a well-developed tail), the purplish snapdragon (*Antirrhinum tortuosum*), the magnificent *Hedysarum coronarium*, besides several species of shrubby *Leguminosae* belonging to the *Ulex*, *Coronilla*, and *Genista* genera.

THE MORNING WAS DELIGHTFUL,

warm and yet bracing; for there was a fresh breeze blowing up the gorge from the sea, while the hills were glistening bright where the rays of the sun were reflected from the snowy summits. The rushing river in its arrowy flight to the sea was swollen with recent rain, and from the lateral valleys, which do so much to lend variety to the scene, the river was being reinforced by numerous waterfalls, some being of great beauty. In certain respects the scenery reminded one of the Pyrenees, in others of the Alps, and yet again of the Carpathians; but it had sufficient distinctness of its own, and one could say it is not Spain, nor yet Switzerland, nor Austria, but as Kabylia it can claim to rank high among the mountain scenery of the world. As we got lower down the gorge fruit-trees became more frequent, and on a cliff I

saw the scarlet flowers of *Gladiolus byzantinus*; and on a dryish bank a species of hawkweed, which I believe is undescribed, and which is certainly not recorded for Africa, grew in considerable quantity. I propose to call it *Hieracium*

again and again we had to stop to admire its beauty. The vines in the extensive vineyards near the coast were in these last days of March showing their leaves. On the plain leading to Bougie, with the beautiful bay on one side and the magnificently outlined hills to the south and west, we had to admit that the scenery on this part of our journey was much finer than we had expected anything in Algeria could produce. In the marshes *Ranunculus muricatus*, *Lythrum flexuosum*, and *Carex divisa* appeared, and in the almost stagnant water near the road *Enanthe globulosa* and *Alisma Plantago* grew. In front of us, on the side of another promontory, and overshadowed by a mountain called Gouayra, nestled the white houses of Bougie, and our small but active little horses brought us into the town in fine style; and we dashed along by the dyers' vats and the people at the fountain, and down the steep narrow street to the Hotel d'Orient, kept by a charming little widow, who did much for our comfort during our visit, and afterwards forwarded to Algiers a valuable gold watch, by Tiffany, which a young friend had left behind.



FORT ABDEL KADIR, BOUGIE.

heratense. The hillside here showed enormous quantities of a rough-leaved grass, called in Arabic Diss. It is the *Ampelodesmos tenax*. Some of the stems were 5 feet high. Fine trees of fig, plentifully covered with fruit, were common, and apparently quite wild. The scent of violets and hawthorn was in the air, and the bushes of white heath, *Erica arborca*, also added their pleasant perfume to the breeze, which was really the sea-breeze, as we could see the blue sea, along the borders of which we proceeded towards Bougie, stopping for refreshment at a small *auberge* where oranges, apricots, lemons, and carobs were numerous, and where a good luncheon was obtained. Masses of maidenhair adorned the fountain, and the rocky sides of the road were starred with the white flowers of *Allium triquetrum* which smells very strongly of garlic. A promontory jutting into the sea is composed of calcareous rocks, and is called Cap Aokas; it is very rich in flowers. Here we saw *Ruscus hypophyllum*, with cladodes much larger than those of our Butcher's Broom; the bright-red flowered rubiaceous plant *Putoria calabrica*; the white bryony, *Bryonia dioica*, rare in Algeria; large bushes of the golden-flowered *Helichrysum*; *Psoralea bituminosa*, with leaves when bruised smelling of tar; the little *Selaginella denticulata* creeping over damp shady rocks; or growing from the driest fissures the feathery spikes of *Melica ciliata*.

Between Cap Aokas and Bougie one of the finest trees of the Old World is to be frequently seen; it is the African ash (*Fraxinus oxyphylla* or *F. angustifolia*), even more beautiful than our own species. The delicately tinted narrow leaves were just in perfection, and its graceful habit contrasted well with the sombre olive and cork oak and slender poplar;

and all have left traces of their domination: remains of the Roman wall can be traced at intervals, while the large Saracenic arch near the port is still fairly complete. The French name for candle is said to have been derived from this town, as wax was formerly largely exported to France. The whole

BOUGIE IS A NATURAL SEAPORT

of Eastern Kabylia, and commands a magnificent view of the sea and the finely outlined Mount Babor. It has been successively in the hands of the Carthaginians, Romans, Vandals, Berbers, Arabs, Spaniards, and Turks,



ARABIAN CEMETERY AT BLIDAH (see page 883).

place is strongly fortified, and a loopholed wall with strong bastions now surrounds the town; above, on the mountain called Gouayra, is a strong fort well armed with modern artillery, and the old forts built during the Spanish occupation are still extant. On the hilly roadsides within the

walls we found interesting flowers, among them being the conspicuous purple-flowered *Echium creticum*, the pretty *Convolvulus althaeoides*—such a typical Mediterranean plant; *Artemisia arborescens*, somewhat recalling our own *A. Absinthium*, only more robust; *Galactites tomentosus*, a pink-flowered thistle-like plant, with leaves variegated with white, on the seeds of which the goldfinches, which are so common here, delight to feed. Then there were that pretty grass *Lamarekia aurca*, and a very prickly fruited dock, the *Rumex spinosa*, and many *Medicagos* and small species of *Lotus*, including *L. ornithopodioides*. Under the warm cliffs *Ricinus communis* became quite arborescent, and was in fine flower; and on rubbish-heaps there were *Chenopodium murale* and *Eballium Elaterium*. The elder, *Sambucus nigra*, did not look native, and it had rather a different aspect from our plant, and the young shoots had made a most rapid growth. Then we had the curious *Nicotiana glauca*, quite naturalised, although it is a native of South America; and the coarse-leaved *Lophat* from Japan, *Eriobotrya japonica*, appeared quite at home. Gigantic *Opuntia* were frequent, and they had ensconced themselves in the Saracenic masonry and in the rough stones of a natural archway as if they meant to stay. On the south-west of the town are many pleasant walks, and here one may see magnificent olive-trees as well as my favourite ash and the cork oak. In damp places the large-leaved huttercup, *Ranunculus macrophyllus*, was found, or the pale-blue flowered and pretty foliaged labiate *Teucrium fruticans* may be seen in some thicket. When one passed round to the north side, along the coast, there was a beautiful natural park with fine olives, cork oaks, and other trees; and along this bushy road the beautiful foliage of the strawberry-tree, *Arbutus Unedo* (only known in the neighbourhood of Killarney in the British Isles), was frequent, and another of our Western species, *Rubia perigrina*, was very luxuriant. The prickly yellow-flowered *Calycotome* and the lentisk were common, and in a damp dell the large-flowered celandine, *Picaria grandiflora*, grew. Grand tufts of the golden-flowered everlasting, *Helichrysum Stachas*, were a great ornament, and our honeysuckle was represented by hushes of *Lonicera implexa*. The undergrowth in many instances was largely made up of the fragrant myrtle (*Myrtus communis*), and *Rosa sempervirens* was in full blossom. The common blackberry was in flower, and in one case the fruit was well

formed although only red in colour. *Orobancha condensata*, with reddish flowers, and a blue-flowered branching plant were the only species of this parasitic genus noticed. The shrubby *Euphorbia dendroides*, so conspicuous an object on the cliffs near Mentone, was also here, but it appears to be much less frequent on the African side of the Mediterranean. A plant or two of *Cheilanthes fragrans*, a fern with a pleasant odour, grew on the cliff, and *Viburnum Tinus* (our laurustinus) was in full flower.

In and about cultivated ground were gathered the dark-blue flowered *Anchusa italica*, *Poterium mauritanicum* (mimicking our *P. Sanguisorba*), *Plantago Lagopus*, *P. albicans*, *P. Psyllium*, and *Bromus maximus*. *Lavatera trimestris*, with its handsome rosy blossoms, was much admired. A

very pretty shrub, the *Tamarix africana*, also grew at Bougie, and on the Gouayra a rich vegetation is found.

A very early start was made in the morning, which necessitated our getting up at 5, and we travelled by rail to the station of El-Kseur, whither our carriage had been previously sent, and it was waiting there to convey us along a most interesting mountain route to Azazga. In the rather damp pastures we saw for the first time in Algeria the beautiful yellow-flowered anemone, *A. palmata*, growing with a plant which recalled our own corn chamomile; but it is a different species, named *Chrysanthemum Myconis*. Our plucky little horses faced the uphill journey extremely well, and well they need, for it was nearly a continual rise during the sixty kilometres which intervene between the two places. The scenery has been compared with that of the Jura Mountains,



AN ALGERIAN WELL.

and I do not think it is inferior to that celebrated touring ground. We passed through most fascinating virgin forests, notably that of Akfadou; and the frequent cascades and the winding streams and the fantastic rock-formation, and especially the curious Kahylian villages, with their red-tiled roofs, perched on the high shoulders of the mountains, combined to give a most pleasing impression. In the woods, panthers, hyenas, and jackals, and especially the wild boar, are still found. We saw one of the latter quite recently shot. The first forest we passed through was that of Taourirt Iril, where I got the beautiful and rare *Orehis Markusii* and also *O. longicornis*. The flowers of the former are creamy white, the latter show a combination of light pink and dark purple. This forest was formerly the abode of strong bands of bandits, and as

recently as 1898 several were executed at Azazga, but now brigandage is said to have been put an end to by the French Government. A pretty little white saxifrage allied to our own *S. granulata* occurred on banks under the borders of the woods; it is *Saxifraga globulifera*, found also in Spain. Magnificent trees of *Erica arborea* now appeared in the forest, where fine trees of the cork oak, often ringed and stripped of cork, and of *Quercus Mirbeckii* and *Quercus castanæfolia*, were common; and from the great quantity of moss and lichens on the trunks of the trees one could see that this was by no means an arid district. Near every Kabyle village vultures could be seen, and occasionally some eagles, but all looking miserable in the drenching rain. Notwithstanding the rain we could not help admiring the grand character of the scenery. We had brought luncheon with us, and took refuge in a little *auberge* to partake of it. We tried to warm our perished fingers and feet at a tiny wood fire in the bedroom, where we had as merry a luncheon as the elements allowed. I made a fine soup of Liebig and Maggi for my invalid friend. The domestic medicine appeared to be Alcool de Menthe, as was shown by the numerous empty bottles. The snow was lying on the ground not far above us, while an icy wind froze us to the marrow; but if you attempt the Djurdjura you must expect some slap in the face. We reached Azazga just as twilight was darkening to night.

An early start had to be made the following morning, but the bad weather had gone, although, from the elevation we were at, the temperature was necessarily low, and our spirits rose with the barometer. On the high hill-tops village after village could be seen. Many vultures were soaring round; near one village I counted fifteen in the air at one time, and later on nine were perched on one tree.

FORT NATIONAL,

our destination, looked a long distance off. The fields, as elsewhere in the colony, were often covered with daisies, but they have a slightly more bluish tint than our English plant, and, in fact, are different species—namely, *Bellis annua*. About noon we reached Fort National, which is 3,153 feet above sea-level. During the Kabyle insurrection of 1871 it stood a siege of sixty-three days, when it was relieved by General Lallemand. It is rather a walled and fortified town than a fort. We entered by the Djurdjura gate, through which carriages have to drive slowly; but our steeds, to show how fresh they were, bolted through at a rattling pace, to the bewilderment of the sentries, who stared as if the wild Kabyles were once more in revolt. Strains of martial music from the curious native band greeted us, and we saw it heading the long line of soldiers going out on their march. The citadel is placed in the centre, and commands the rest of the town. The commandant refused permission for us to walk round the ramparts inside the fort, but the view on the outside is scarcely inferior, we were informed. It is, indeed, a superb panorama, for Fort National occupies nearly the centre of Kabylia, and one sees to the south the splendid mass of the Djurdjura, reminding one of the view of the Jungfrau from Interlaken. The highest peak is 7,542 feet above the sea, and cedars are found on it nearly to the summit, although at this time of the year it is covered with snow. The view from the north is over the valley of the Sebaou.

The Kabyle house is a primitive construction, consisting of a single room divided into two portions by a low parapet wall, one part being the sleeping-room of the family and the other for the use of cattle; the only aperture is a low door. The partition-wall serves as a shelf, on which is placed the provisions, consisting of dried fruit, flour, &c., while above the stable there is a loft for fodder. In a corner is a fireplace, the smoke from which, added to the stench from the stable and from the human inhabitants—whose clothes are seldom changed and very rarely washed—combined with the imperfect ventilation and the want of light, render the atmosphere almost insupportable; nor can all these violations of the laws of sanitation be broken without the loss of life and of health. As it is, it is the strongest who survive. The race, as a whole, are capable of great endurance: they are said to be quite honest and hospitable, and very industrious. The young children are taught in the French schools, and will tell you the chief town and the population of

England, or do a sum, or recite a fable, or sing you a patriotic song—all for a sou; and then, if you throw a handful of coppers along the road, these young *savants* will be scrambling in the dust as if such things as the fine arts never existed. But all through Algeria one never saw them unkind to each other, and almost without exception they had the most cheery dispositions, which not even the wet and cold of the Djurdjura hills appeared to be able to sadden or sour.

As we wound along the road on our descent from Fort National, it was interesting to notice the change in vegetation, as the fig-trees and ash, which at the top of the hill were leafless, begun to show their leaves as we descended into warmer climate. Between Fort National and Tamazirt the French have founded a technical school for the purpose of instructing the Kabyle children in trades. Whether passing Tamazirt, or Taza, or elsewhere, the drive was always full of charm, as new pictures were continually rising before one. We at last reached the river Sebaou, the largest of the Algerian streams. The marshy margins were showing great masses of the reed grass (*Phragmites communis*) and *Arundo Donax*, some of the latter grass being 12 feet high; and as we drew near Tizi-Oozou the broom, from which it is named, begun to be prevalent.

Tizi-Oozou is only 850 feet above the sea, so that in seventeen miles we have descended 2,310 feet, and here the figs are in full leaf, and one appears to have stepped from March to May in a couple of hours.

The railway to

ALGIERS

begins here, and Algiers we reached after 5½ hours' journey. Like Bougie, it is in the form of an amphitheatre, but with the eastern side open to and overlooking the beautiful bay; on the northern side is the old Arab town, and to the south-west, on the higher part, is the suburb Mustapha Supérieur, where the villas for visitors and the largest hotels are situated.

We stayed at the Hôtel de la Régence, opposite which are some fine palms, and where the flower-vendors sold large bunches of roses for a very small sum. Always at the entrance of the hotel, as at all others in Algeria, are numbers of Arab shoeblacks, or some little urchins who turn Catherine wheels till you, if not they, are giddy. The Grand Mosque is said to have been built in 1018. The interior consists of a square whitewashed hall, divided into aisles by columns united by semicircular Moorish arches. These columns are wrapped round with matting to the height of about 5 feet, and similar matting covers the floor, but one misses the rich carpets so prominent in the mosques of Tunis and Constantine. The new mosque, which is close to our hotel, was built about 1660; in the courtyard adjoining we saw the Arabs perform their ablutions before entering. This mosque has a fine tower, 90 feet high, with an illuminated clock. The Roman Catholic cathedral is a handsome edifice built on an imposing situation, being the site of the old Mosque of Hassan. It is studded on the outside with pieces of precious marble, and richly decorated with mosaic. The interior, with the long row of Moorish arches and arcades, is very fine; one chapel to S. Geronimo contains his bones, which have a remarkable history. In 1540, when the Spanish garrison of Oran made a raid, a young Arab boy was taken prisoner and baptized under the name of Geronimo. When about 8 years old he was recaptured and brought up as a Mahomedan till he was 25, when he voluntarily returned to Oran and became a Christian. Shortly after, with some Spaniards, he made a raid on the Arabs in the neighbourhood, journeying in a small boat for the purpose; they were chased by a Moorish vessel and captured, all the Christians being taken prisoners to Algiers. Many ineffectual attempts were made by the Moors to induce Geronimo to renounce Christianity, and as he remained steadfast he was sentenced to be put alive into a mould in which a block of concrete was about to be formed; this cruel sentence was carried out, his feet and hands being tied with cords, and semi-liquid cement put in till he was covered. The block of concrete was afterwards built into an angle of the fort, and the exact spot was noted by a Spanish Benedictine, named Haedo, and carefully recorded. In 1853 this fort was demolished, and in the very spot specified by Haedo the skeleton of Geronimo was found enclosed in the block of concrete. The bones were

carefully removed and buried with much pomp in the cathedral. Plaster of Paris was then run into the block of concrete, and a model was obtained which is now to be seen in the Government Museum. It exhibits the marks of the cords with which Geronimo was bound. We visited the beautiful residence of the Archbishop, which was formerly a Moorish palace. The carving on the doors and window-shutters is very beautiful, and, like the lovely encaustic tiles, dates back for 600 years. Altogether this is a very interesting and charming building. The palace of the Governor-General, formerly the residence of Hassan Pacha, is also a beautiful house. The ladies' boudoir is very ornate, and the large drawing-room, with the most delicate white-stuccoed ornamented walls and ceiling, and its crimson-and-gold furniture and large mirrors, is a superb room.

We had a very pleasant drive to the suburb of Mustapha and the wooded valley of La Femme Sauvage, and from the top of the hill had a delightful view over the flat-topped white houses and the extensive bay. One could not help admiring the graceful growth of the fennel, which was very abundant and is quite one of the ornamental features of the district.

The shops in the town are very good indeed, the

ALGIERS PHARMACIES

often being very fine. One pharmacist, who had a window nearly full of Eno's Fruit Salt and many other English proprietary articles, told me that very few English people were in Algiers last year, owing to the somewhat strained relations between France and Great Britain, and also to the Transvaal war; and, besides, he thought the riot against the Jews two years ago, when he had to attend to over sixty people who had been wounded in the fray, had also exerted a bad influence. But, he said, with a district possessing a population of 120,000 they do not wholly depend upon visitors. In some shops we saw a notice to the effect that no Jews were employed. We drove to La Trappe, the monastery of the Trappist monks, who, in 1843, were granted about 2,500 acres of land by the Government and allowed to build a monastery. The discipline is very rigorous, and so far as conversation is concerned, perpetual silence reigns within the walls.

We drove to Sidi Feruch (twenty-five kilometres), where the French landed in 1839, and then to Guyotville and Cap Caxine. On the sand-dunes there is an interesting flora including the pretty *Medicago marina*, which I first gathered on the sandy banks of the Adriatic coast at Lido; a beautiful crimson-blossomed *Nedysarum capitatum*, which, on being pulled up, was seen to have the prickly-coated seeds still attached to the root; the curious *Schœnus mucronatus*, so common on the sand-dunes near Gibraltar; a tall sea-thrift, and *Erodium laciniatum*. The unenclosed collines had on them several species of *Cistus* with the fugacious pink or white petals, a local species of *Euphorbia*, and the small purple *Iris* and the golden-flowered *Odontospermum maritimum*, which I first picked at Tarifa, in Spain. In the vicinity we saw a hedge of pomegranate, *Punica Granatum*, in splendid flower, but it is not indigenous to Algeria. Between Cap Caxine and Algiers is the forest of Ain-Beinan which is planted with Aleppo pines, several species of eucalyptus, cork oak, and the Australian acacias and casuarina.

In fine weather it is a charming drive

FROM CAP CAXINE TO LA PESCADE.

We made a pleasant visit to the Jardin d'Essai, the Algerian Kew Gardens, which was begun in 1832 and for some time kept up by the Government, but it is now in the hands of the Compagnie Générale Algérienne at a nominal rent of 40% per annum, and is now worked on commercial lines, large quantities of palms and other trees and shrubs being sent to various parts of Europe. There is a fine avenue of tall planes (*Platanus orientalis*), with the bark lighter coloured than it is with us; and at right-angles to this a very fine avenue of splendid bamboos—quite the largest I have seen. Another avenue, parallel to but some distance from that of the planes, is the one the gardens are chiefly celebrated for. It is composed of the so-called indiarubber-tree, which has a curious mode of growth, for long hair-like processes are sent down from the branches, which twist round and round the trunks, with which they shortly form a compact mass, so that the trunks enlarge in a very rapid manner—so much so that in less than twenty years many trees had to be removed from their encroaching too far upon the roadway. There are some fine specimens of *Ficus Roxburghii*, so often planted round the temples in the East as to be called the pagoda-tree. A grand specimen of the banyan dominates a piece of raised ground overlooking a pond, where the papyrus is growing freely. A beautiful specimen of the Juarez cocoa-nut from Mexico is a very lovely object; in fact, the variety of palms here is very great, and there are many handsome specimens. The yuccas are luxuriant, and a very singular one, *Y. Draconis*, has a grotesque growth, looking rather like a camel. The



THE AVENUE OF PALMS (Jardin d'Essai, Algiers).

Strelitzia regina was in fine flower in the open air, and showing that bizarre combination of colour which makes it so distinct. Large specimens of the banana are also in evidence. There is a very beautiful Moorish fountain near the Mustapha gate, which is a favourite study for artists.

AN ARAB FÊTE.

On the coast further south we saw one of the curious Arab fêtes, although, strictly speaking, it appeared to be a negro festival, and certainly the rites followed find no place in the tenets as taught by Mahomed. In a small valley, which opened out at the lower end on to the coast, but which narrowed inland to rather a small gorge, was a group of people presenting a very curious appearance. Seated on the loose sand was an irregular circle of gaily-dressed negresses and negroes, while standing up was a band of negroes beating drums and tambours, and with other rude musical instruments producing a more or less discordant noise; several old negroes with white hair appeared to be masters of the ceremonies, and one in particular beat time with a palm-stick. The chief interest was centred upon the occupants of the ring—in this case a negress, apparently about fifty years of age, dressed in a pink silk dress with some bright blue ribbons, who was dancing furiously in the loose sand to the music, and throwing about her hands and swaying her head so that one was half afraid it might break off, until exhausted she fell down, foaming at the mouth. Some small fires, on which some fragrant gums were occasionally thrown, were close by. Eventually, she was restored to consciousness by means of friction to the arms, burnt feathers, and fanning, when she struggled to her feet, and went round the circle kissing the tops of the turbans of the people seated round. On the sides of the valley, and on the top of the high ground in the vicinity, was a very large crowd, chiefly of drab women closely veiled, watching the proceedings. Close by where I was standing was a small bull, decked with wreaths of orange-blossoms; a small negro boy, chiefly clothed with similar wreaths, was holding him by a rope. Near by were some lambs, fowls, and pigeons, all of which were to be slaughtered, and after much ceremonial the blood was to be used to sprinkle the people who were attending this annual festival. Meanwhile, as the spirit moved them, one after another of the negresses danced herself into a hysterical or ecstatic, or even into a senseless, state; while, intensely interested in the proceedings, two French slaughterers from the *abattoir* were standing on their naked horses' backs to get a full view of the proceedings, and once or twice came rolling off as the thick crowd surged against them—notably so when an active little negress, after performing a most exciting breakdown, ran out of the ring, and, followed by an applauding mob, rushed into the sea, from which she emerged unmistakably a dripping Eve. As is not unusual in other congregations, someone went round with a collection-bag, and then once more the Cynobantic devotees pursued their wild gyrations.

We had also an excursion to Blidah, which is fifty-one kilometres from Algiers, passing on the way Maison Carrée, where there is a monastery of the White Fathers—a missionary order established by the late Cardinal Lavigerie, who was such a pioneer in all good and philanthropic work in the colony, for the purpose of converting the natives of the remote regions of Central Africa; but when the Fathers attempted to cross the Sahara many were martyred, and now they go by the way of Zanzibar into the interior of the Dark Continent.

The last morning of our visit to Algeria was brilliantly fine, but a fierce wind was blowing in stormy gusts which did not cease till our vessel reached Marseilles.

[We drop the curtain over the sad events of the sea passage.—EDITOR.]

ECONOMIC FACTS AND OXONIAN REFLECTIONS.

In Algeria, the total area occupied by forest-land is as much as 2,000,000 hectares. In this great expanse the Aleppo pine, *Pinus halepensis*, itself covers over 800,000 hectares, which produces about 40,000 tons worth of resin per year, while the cork oak, the "Ferna" of the Arabs, occupies over 454,000 hectares (besides 116,000 hectares in Tunis). This tree is not "stripped" until it is fifteen years old, and even then the product is not of service for cork.

When thirty years old it is stripped every eight years, and yields about a hundredweight of good cork from each tree. As a cork-bearing tree its age rarely exceeds 150 years. The appearance is rather sombre, but a forest of old trees with the rugged bark is always interesting, as many species of plants are to be seen growing on the suberous material. The *Callitris quadrivalvis*, which yields gum juniper, only covers about 25,000 hectares; the wood is extremely durable, and that from the root is very ornamental, while the tree itself has a dignity of its own. The cedar, *Cedrus Libani* var. *atlantica*, occupies 42,000 hectares, chiefly on the shoulders of the higher mountains, and individual trees have a girth of 20 feet, and rise sometimes to a height of 80 feet. Next in numbers to the Aleppo pine is the evergreen oak, covering 600,000 hectares; it forms a valuable timber, as does the *Quercus Mirbeckii*, called by the Arabs "Leen," which is a species delighting in cool and moist localities, while *Q. castaneaefolia*, the "Afares" of the Kabyles, is distinctly a mountain species, not descending below 3,000 feet. Another species, *Quercus Ballota*, which is spread over the district, yields acorns which form an article of food largely consumed by the Kabyles, who grind them into flour, of which they make cuscus. In other districts the acorns are roasted, and large quantities have been exported to Europe to adulterate coffee with. Between these different species of oak there are numerous hybrids. The olive, which is so largely grown on the northern side of the Mediterranean near the sea-level, does best in Algeria at a much higher elevation, and the best crops in Kabylia are obtained from trees grown between 2,000 and 3,000 feet above the sea.

It is with thoughts about the views which such extensive forests as these trees afford, and of the beautiful flowers which they give a home to, and the considerable number of interesting species of birds and beasts which they shelter, not less than with visions of the sunny desert, and the palm-tree oases, or the crowded mart bright with variety of colour, or the different races of humanity, or the glorious expanse of the starry heavens, or combination of wooded mountain and seascape which the country so often presents to the gaze, that one occupies the time on the homeward journey. With remembrances such as these, and of pleasant friendships made or renewed, will always be linked in one's mind the name of that colony of which the great nation of France is so justly proud. Nor must one omit to notice the feelings of thankfulness for the safe return of all the members of our party which was experienced when we once more reached the ancient, loyal, and beautiful city of Oxford.

[Most of the pictures which have been used to illustrate this series of articles have been reproduced from photographs by M. Leroux, 26 rue Bab-azoun, Algiers.—EDITOR.]

BISMUTHION.

THE subjoined paragraphs are a translation by a *Nature* reviewer of passages from Ostwald's latest book on inorganic chemistry, and admirably illustrate modern chemical views:—

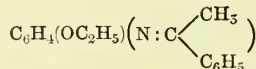
Bismuth forms one sort of elementary ion, the trivalent bismuthion Bi^{+++} . This is almost the only ion derived from bismuth, for the tendency of this metal to form complex ions is extremely small, only a few complex organic ions containing bismuth being known.

Bismuthion is colourless, and forms an extremely feeble base with hydroxyl. The phenomenon of hydrolysis is consequently so pronounced in bismuth salts that it can be used as a characteristic test for them. As the basic compounds formed in this way are very slightly soluble in water, the bismuth salts can be precipitated by merely diluting them with water; on addition of acid the precipitate is redissolved.

The best-known bismuth salt is the nitrate, which is obtained in the form of the hydrated crystals, $\text{Bi}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, when the solution of bismuth in nitric acid is crystallised. When water is poured over these crystals a snow-white crystalline powder of basic nitrate, $\text{Bi}(\text{OH})_2\text{NO}_3$, separates out. . . . The nitric acid which is liberated passes into solution, so that a portion of the bismuth salt can remain dissolved. There is thus in the solution a chemical equilibrium with respect to the precipitate of basic salt, which is characterised by the concentration of the hydroxyl ion of the water being reduced, by the hydrogen ion of the free acid, to such a value as corresponds with the solubility-product of the basic salt.

Scientific Progress.

Malarine.—This compound is a new remedy suggested for use in cases where the ordinary synthetic antipyretics are found to produce unpleasant after-effects. The body is prepared by the action of acetophenone on paraphenetidine in the presence of condensing reagents. It has the formula



It forms fine yellowish crystals melting at 88° C. It is extremely soluble in alcohol, petroleum, ether, benzene, and chloroform, but only slightly so in water, either hot or cold. It is said to possess very strong antipyretic properties, and to leave no unpleasant after-effects of any nature.—(*Union Pharmaceutique*, 1901, 2.)

Oil of Vetiver.—Theulier has examined samples of this oil, some of which were distilled from the fresh root in Réunion, and some from the dried root in Grasse. That distilled in Grasse was a liquid of brown colour, of sp. gr. 1.0115 at 15°, and optical rotation +34° 4'. A considerable quantity of a free acid was found in the oil, which appears to be an acid corresponding to a sesquiterpene alcohol. The chief odoriferous constituent of the oil appears to be an ester, but it was not separated or identified. The oil distilled in Bourbon had a sp. gr. 0.990 and optical rotation +28° 40'. No attempt was made in this case also to isolate the active constituent of the oil.

Metals amongst the Egyptians.—Berthelot has examined a hieroglyphic inscription on an old Egyptian piece of metal found at Thebes by M. Benedite. It appears to be of the age of Queen Shapenapit, daughter of King Psammetik I. (about 700 B.C.). It was covered on one side by inscriptions in gold, and on the other with similar inscriptions in silver. Hitherto platinum was believed to be quite unknown to the Egyptians, and not to exist in their country; but the analysis of portions of the metal have revealed the presence of small quantities of platinum, and also of other rare metals as yet unrecognised. Among the latter it is probable that iridium occurs.—*Jour. de Pharm. et de Chimie*, 1901, 478.

The Stearoptene of Lemon Oil.—Three pages of the *Bulletin de la Soc. Chim. de Paris* (1901, 464) are devoted to a paper by Theulier on this subject, in which the conclusion arrived at is that the stearoptene is not a single compound, but a mixture of at least two solid substances. The trouble to which the author has gone might have been saved by reference to any text-book on essential oils, and the compound which he has separated, but not investigated further than determining its melting-point, found to be already well known, having been discovered years ago by Crismer. This body melts at 144°. Theulier does not, however, find the body described by Tilden and Beck, which melts at 115°, at all, but states that he has also separated a body melting at 76°, which occurs in traces in the oil.

Carbonophosphate of Calcium.—According to Barillé, when phosphate of calcium is dissolved in a solution of carbonic acid, the reaction is not as simple as is usually supposed. It is well known that a certain amount of phosphate of lime is dissolved, and that the solutions are not identical when dicalcic and tricalcic phosphates are used. He states that in the former case the solution is simple, but that in the latter the tricalcic phosphate is decomposed, and the salts dissolved consist of a mixture of calcium bicarbonate, and carbonophosphate of calcium ($\text{P}_2\text{O}_5\text{Ca}_2\text{H}_2(\text{CO}_2)$). A careful examination of the results published, however, do not convince one of the existence of this compound. It has not been separated, nor has the calcium bicarbonate, and the only evidence adduced is that the examination of the residue of the solution gives figures which could be accounted for by assuming the compounds formed to have the relations above described. Fuller details may be found in the original paper.—(*Repertoire de Pharmacie*, 1901, 150.)

Adulterated Saffron.—In describing the analyses of a number of adulterated samples of saffron which had been evidently soaked in some metallic solution, Blarez (*Ann. de Chim. analytique*, 1901, 182) points out that the ash of genuine saffron never contains boric acid, lime, or magnesia, while many of the adulterated samples do. He gives the following figures for two genuine samples:—

Soluble in chloroform ...	3.95	2.00
Soluble in alcohol ...	46.50	49.50
Soluble in water ...	22.75	23.50
Insoluble residue ...	15.40	12.25
"Reducing matter" ...	5.45	5.89

The solubility figures appear to refer to successive treatments with the solvents in the order named. "Reducing matter" appears to mean substances capable of reducing cupric oxide, and calculated as sugar.

Pharmaceutical Fauna.



The Camphor Bird.

This Merry Songster is a denizen of the Fen district of Mincing Lane, but it frequently flies west to the cackling-ground of the drug-club birds by the Bank. Prefers a Japanese environment to any other, and Waxes mightily in strength when any speculation in Camphor is in the air—which, owing to the Japanese Government's impecuniosity, rarely happens nowadays. In aspect is Johnsonian naturally, but whether it can boss well or not we cannot tell. Its seed-box is generally filled with Cubeb Berries and Menthol Crystals, a dash of Antimony being interspersed.

An Old Business.

MR. C. BOND SMITH, chemist and druggist, Market Place, Potten, Beds, send us a very interesting advertisement-sheet got out by the founder of the business which he now conducts. Mr. Bond Smith's great-grandfather founded the Potten business somewhere about 1790, and we take it a record of 110 years in one family is in these days unusual. Founded in the eighteenth century, the business weathered the nineteenth century, and entered the twentieth century as strong as ever. In regard to the advertisement-sheet it is a locally printed one, and contains a list of drugs, patent medicines and perfumery, but unfortunately no prices are quoted. Aloes and elecampane are spelt throughout with two l's, and among the list of drugs are to be noted such old stagers as Gascoigne's balls, ægyptiacum, Daffy's elixir, Paracelsus' plaster, pil. cochiae, and Irish slate. Linseed occurs as lint seeds, and mercuric chloride is laconically mentioned as sublimate. In the list of patent medicines some that are only memories are included, such as Ward's medicines, Lockyer's pills, Atkinson's issue plasters, Cundle's honey, and Pike's itch-ointment. Ipecacuanha lozenges, lemon acid, salts of lemon, and tolu lozenges are curiously enough classed under the head of patent medicines. Perfumery is an inclusive term for such things as Japan blacking, abstergent juice for boot-tops, combs, and sealing-wax. As a relic of the early establishment of his business the list is one Mr. Bond Smith may well be proud of.

THE NEW STYLE OF ADVERTISING.—"If you get to the top of St. Paul's you will see 42 Cannon Street; that's the place where they fix up chemists and druggists so they may get a decent living." So a Barnsley subscriber tells us.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

The Pharmaceutical Dinner

at the Métropole was a very good one from a gourmand's point of view; "a capital guinea's worth," remarked a friend, with unction, as he peeled a banana. This verdict, it will be observed, was given before the flow of soul began. That was all extra, but I doubt if my friend would have assessed its value at another shilling. But is there any law that we must have exactly the same toasts and almost exactly the same speeches at these dinners year after year? The substitution of the King for the Queen in the first toast was this year pretty nearly the only variation from the rubric as by the committee established. Could we not once now and then recognise the trading-side of our vocation? A little interchange of courtesies between wholesalers and manufacturers and retailers would be at least a welcome change. A speech from Mr. Barratt or Mr. Beecham, and even one from the promoter of the heterodox Poisons Bill, would help to make the evening cheerful. I do not think the Pharmaceutical Society should be asked to pretend to desire the success of company-pharmacy, but if Mr. Boot were down to reply for the guests, I fancy we should all stay to the finish. One thing was certainly regrettable—only one M.P. was among the company, though this is just the time when we want the help of these gentlemen. A month or two ago the Grocers' Assistants' Association had a dinner at the Holborn Restaurant, and they got three peers and several members of the House of Commons at their table.

Mr. C. B. Allen

has been deservedly complimented on the ability and good humour which characterised his conduct of the annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society. I humbly echo the chorus of appreciation with a single reservation of amazement at the Vice-President's arithmetic. "If the Society's statutory work were handed over to the more enlightened intelligence of a Government Department, the income from the subscriptions of members of the voluntary society would," he says, "perfectly well enable it to pay its way even though it spent, as it did, 2,342% in giving away a journal, and 1,217% in promoting education." Not if the late Mr. Cocker's methods of addition were sound. The Society's total income from subscriptions and investments amounted last year to 6,710%. The two items named by the Vice-President absorbed more than half of this; the balance would not suffice to pay the cost of annuities, library, museum, North British Branch, evening meetings, Council, and stationery, and the treasury would be penniless when rent, taxes, repairs, and salaries had to be met. At the present rate of living Mr. Allen and his associates would outrun the constable by nearly 5,000%. What is fallacious in these figures?

The Vice-President's Estimate

that the annual loss to the Society by the adoption of the new regulations for the registration of students will amount to 2,500% is not much more justifiable than his other calculation. That the 1900 income from First examination fees was abnormal, we are all aware, and it is also likely that in future the fee for the Preliminary will not be paid until near the time when the candidate wants to go in for his Minor. This will considerably check the revenue from that source for a year or two. But unless the entries are considerably diminished—and there is

no good reason for anticipating this result—the average income must be resumed before long, and it will not be taxed with the 500% a year which the First examination has hitherto cost. The subscriptions from student-associates will no doubt fall off, but as they cost over a guinea a year each to provide for, the loss of their half-guineas will be a financial benefit rather than otherwise.

Attendance at the Evening Meetings

is no doubt a sacred duty on the part of loyal pharmacists, and it must be a blessed privilege also, especially with the new electric lamp and the microscopic slides thrown direct on the screen. I have been to the meetings occasionally, but I confess that I bear the deprivation when other engagements interrupt my visits with a stoicism for which I cannot conscientiously claim credit. The one thing, however, which I never thought I had lost through my absences was money. Clearly I am one of those who have "absolutely and entirely missed my vocation." I have seen the opportunities utilised as occasions for advertisement, and certain people have no doubt found profit from the meetings in this way; but the retail chemist and druggist with no axe to grind must be very ingenious if he can convert the highly scientific researches of the usual lectures into hard cash.

Cleopatra's Hair-restorers

are not likely to come into the market—not, at least, as "prepared from the original formulae." But the correspondence in reference to these is interesting. I confess my first impression on reading the note in the *C. & D.* was either that "G. B.S." was hoaxing us or that his professor had made a hash of the translation. My reason for scepticism was that which Dr. Johnson gave for a blunder he had made in his dictionary—"Ignorance, sir; pure ignorance." I only knew the red sulphuret of arsenic as a depilatory, and was ignorant enough to disbelieve that it could have been recommended to make the hair grow twenty centuries ago. Then came Mr. Ashton with his quotations from Pliny; and I was glad I had not expressed any opinion on the matter. All the same, the directly contrary uses for which realgar has been recommended are curious. Perhaps Mr. Ashton can tell us when it changed its rôle. Mr. Bell's suggestion of Cleopatra with yellow hair clashes with another of my fancies. I have based my mental picture of the lady on Tennyson's description, "A queen with swarthy cheeks and bold black eyes, Brow-bound with burning gold." This hardly seems to go with yellow hair.

Mr. Henry Long,

whose death was reported last week, was, I think, the original humourist of the pharmaceutical meetings. Before him no one that I ever heard of caused a laugh at those assemblies, and none of these who have followed him in the art of exaggerated criticism have done it with the spontaneity and naturalness which always characterised Mr. Long's utterances. For twelve or fifteen years Mr. Long's speeches were a recognised feature of the entertainment. They wandered over the whole field of pharmaceutical politics, one subject bubbling up after another without any apparent association, unless it was a fixed belief that pharmacists were the most wronged of human beings. And all his quaint things were said without the slightest apparent idea that they were funny—were said, indeed, with a troubled face and with aggrieved gestures. Outside his speeches Mr. Long was, I believe, the most uncomplaining of men.

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Editorial Comments.

Election Reflections.

THE Pharmaceutical Council election last week was participated in by nearly 500 fewer voters than in the previous two years, which were the highest records. The figures for the three years are :—

	1899	1900	1901
Voting-papers issued ...	5,468	5,541	5,628
Voting-papers returned ...	3,733	3,717	3,278

The larger abstention on this occasion may be due to satisfaction with the *status quo*, and the fact that all the retiring Councillors who sought re-election were returned gives indirect colour to that observation, but the increased abstention is not a healthy sign. The only members returned with an absolute majority of votes were Messrs. Newsholme, Martindale, Allen, and Atkins. There would have been no place on the Council for at least two of the successful had the members not frittered away their votes upon impossible candidates. Concentration of effort can get new men on the Council at any time. It did so last year when three new members were returned in the place of as many retiring councillors, and it is clear from the condition of the poll this year that had there not been a multiplicity of candidates from Scotland, at least one more new member would have been returned. Local and personal stubbornness is chiefly responsible for depriving Scotland of one of her seats at the Council-table, to which she is entitled by custom and voting-strength. Although territorial representation is not constitutional in the Society, it has always been practised more or less, the South of England, the Midlands, Manchester, Liverpool, and Scotland having rarely been unrepresented on the Council, and London, for administrative reasons, has always been. Scotch members may regain a seat on the Council next year if they take the precaution of getting the nominees to agree upon one who should be run as the adopted candidate. There is nothing to prevent the recognised leaders, the Executive in Scotland, doing this unofficially. The resolution of the Council (November 3, 1886) does not preclude such action,

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and the matter should certainly be discussed by the Scotch members when they meet this month to elect the Executive for the year.

One of the facts most strongly demonstrated by the election is the success of the circular. Mr. Gifford, Mr. Stephenson, Mr. Paterson, and Mr. Pickering were those on whose behalf circulars were issued—Mr. Pickering's to a limited number of voters. These four scored more votes (4,689) than those given to the seven other unsuccessful candidates, while Mr. Gifford got a seat, and Messrs. Stephenson and Paterson were in the running. Handicapped as Mr. Stephenson was by three compatriots dividing the Scotch vote, it is most creditable to him that he should have been within a dozen votes of a seat. Mr. Gifford's success naturally invites comparison with his previous effort, and we may contrast the votes of all the candidates who stood both last year and this:—

			1900		1901
Gifford	...	...	1,587	...	1,595
Campkin	...	...	686	...	1,069
Gostling	...	...	425	...	437
Morrison	...	...	328	...	364
Pickering	...	...	367	...	555

It will be seen that all have done better, but it is obvious that Messrs. Gostling, Morrison, and Pickering lack the support which would justify division of the votes, especially when that division means the rejection of new men with better chances in favour of retiring councillors. Thus in the recent contest, if the votes under the thousand had been divided amongst the five new candidates with more, we should have had the following return:—

1. Newsholme	...	...	2,440	5. Allen	...	...	2,000
2. Martindale	...	...	2,413	6. Atkins	...	...	1,796
3. Gifford	...	...	2,221	7. Campkin	...	...	1,695
4. Stephenson	...	...	2,120				

This exactly agrees with the pronouncement of the voters that four only of the retiring councillors satisfied the majority of voters; it proves that a multiplicity of candidates increases the chances of the less popular retiring members, and that by concentration of effort three new candidates may easily be returned every year if need be. It is to the last point that we especially desire to draw attention, for it is the moral of the election which should be taken to heart for next year. Mr. Gifford's return will not be at all regretted. It gives him another opportunity of substantiating the doctrine of "no compromise" which he has so persistently advocated; but we would remind those who expect much from him on this score that now he is an administrator, and it is here that more may be expected of him. In this respect he should add strength to the Council.

"Infamous Conduct."

THE debate in the House of Commons on Thursday, May 23, regarding the appointment of Dr. H. W. Irvine as a school-inspector served to bring before the public eye the powers which the General Medical Council possesses of de-registering professional men who come under its jurisdiction. As the facts were not precisely stated in Parliament we may recall them. In December last Dr. Henry Ward Irvine, a graduate of the Dublin University, was summoned by the General Medical Council to answer the charge that he accepted the office of consulting physician to the Consultative Medical and Surgical Institution, Birmingham, at a salary, and approved or acquiesced in the extensive advertisements issued by that Institution by posters exhibited in the various manufactories, trading establishments, and mercantile offices of the city, by advertisements in the daily

press, and by lithographed letters and printed pamphlets, widely circulated, setting forth conspicuously his name and medical qualifications, and referring to his special ability as a general consulting practitioner, and soliciting and inviting the public to consult him at a reduced fee. The case was reported by the Medical Defence Union, at the instigation, it was then stated, of Dr. Robert Saundby, of Birmingham. At the hearing Dr. Irvine informed the Council that before accepting the appointment he made himself absolutely sure that the Institution was a philanthropic one, the promoters receiving no gain. He was not in any way consulted as regards the placards; there was no more advertising than was usual at the opening of any institution. Nevertheless the Council regarded the conduct complained of as serious, but adjourned the case to the forthcoming session to give Dr. Irvine an opportunity of reconsidering his position; and we were able to announce some time ago that Dr. Irvine had, by resigning the appointment, put himself right with his professional superiors. The Parliamentary incident was simultaneous with a paragraph on Dr. Irvine's appointment in the *British Medical Journal*, which said:—

Dr. Irvine has reconsidered his position and has severed his connection with the Birmingham Consultative Institution, but the medical profession cannot but be surprised at the precipitate action of the Council of Education [in appointing him an inspector]. We are anxious not to appear to bear hardly upon a member of the profession who has been under the censure of the General Medical Council, but the position is a grave one. The disciplinary body created by statute to ensure professional rectitude of conduct on the part of medical practitioners is in this case absolutely ignored as regards its findings by the Board of Education, which is still closely connected with, if not a part of, the Privy Council Office, to which the General Medical Council is also directly responsible. Such circumstances cannot but have a serious effect on the estimation in which the decisions of the General Medical Council will be held.

This and the Parliamentary attack are uncommonly like hounding a man down, and we are not sorry that it has been unsuccessful. There are, however, greater issues for consideration. The Birmingham Consultative Institution was and is (for it still exists) an honest attempt to meet a professional and public grievance. It is well known that there are many persons who desire to consult medical specialists and to pay for their advice, but cannot meet the usual professional fees, and are thus forced to the many provident dispensaries and hospitals where they consult specialists gratis. Several philanthropic gentlemen in Birmingham put their heads together and evolved the Consultative Institution idea, which was at first not unfavourably received by local medical men; indeed, it was intended that the best of them should give their services. On second thoughts local practitioners discouraged the project, and the originators advertised for a medical adviser or consultant, and appointed Dr. Irvine to the post. With the co-operation of medical practitioners it would have been possible to feed the institution with the class of patients for which it was designed, and thus have secured a public good, but without the co-operation the originators were forced either to abandon the project or appeal direct to the public. In adopting the latter course they unquestionably inaugurated a serious danger to the medical profession, for what they were doing for philanthropic reasons (*i.e.*, not for gain) if tolerated might be repeated as a commercial venture all over the country. This danger was really at the bottom of the proceedings against Dr. Irvine, and as a journal devoted to a calling which has suffered much from a parallel circumstance we consider the outcome an important advantage to the medical profession. Dr. Irvine was the pawn whose capture determined the checkmate; but it should be noted that if the General Medical Council acts up to its traditions it will not order his name to be removed

from the register. It cannot but be regretted that the object of the Consultative Institute has not been attained. In London a similar idea has been carried to success by medical men themselves in the Polyclinic, where very exceptional ailments are treated by special specialists, the patients being referred to the place by practitioners who recognise the rarity of the cases or their peculiar interest. Practitioners also attend the Polyclinic to look on, so that it is educational; while the patients benefited include the class whom the Birmingham people desire to cater for. Surely there is a way of reconciling these two interests—the public good and professional susceptibility—so that the men who give their professional services to a good cause may not be liable to ostracism on account of so-called “infamous conduct.” The line to be drawn is a narrow one, for it is merely required to divide the obviously commercial venture from the purely philanthropic organisation; it may be difficult to draw the line, but the spirit of the age as expressed in the House of Commons debate cannot wait long for the drawing.

Bribes and Tips.

THERE are now two Bills before Parliament dealing with secret commissions and kindred obstacles to honest trading. The first is the Bill introduced by the late Lord Russell of Killowen in 1899, which went through all its stages in the Upper House but did not reach the Commons. This Session it was introduced by Lord Alverstone, and is now awaiting the Committee stage. The second Bill has been introduced by the Lord Chancellor, and it was read a first time last week. It is a much shorter measure, practically the whole subject being dealt with in one clause, as the other two clauses of the Bill deal solely with administration. The introduction of this second measure dooms Lord Alverstone's Bill, and though the Lord Chief Justice has accepted the new Bill it is apparently with some reluctance, for he told their Lordships that though he would not ask them to go into Committee on his Bill he proposed to keep it on the paper. The late Lord Russell would doubtless have welcomed the fact that the Government have taken the subject in hand, but he would have been far from satisfied with the Lord Chancellor's Bill. The Bill which is thus shelved is an excellent attempt by those in earnest about the subject to deal exhaustively with it. It is, perhaps, not surprising that the Lord Chancellor, who endeavoured to remedy the defects in the Pharmacy Acts relating to companies by one short clause, should think that all that is advisable in the direction of preventing corruption in trade is a three-clause Bill. The Lord Chancellor, though he supported Lord Alverstone's Bill on its second reading, said, in introducing his own Bill last week, that the former measure goes too far, and its arrangements are too complex. As will be seen from the abstracts printed under “Westminster Wisdom,” while the Russell Bill includes important provisions which are omitted from the Giffard Bill, it is not more complex than the malady for which it is designed as the remedy. It goes a long way in the direction of defining what are corrupt transactions. It is, of course, easy to leave, as the Lord Chancellor has done, all definitions to be decided subsequently by the law-courts at the expense of litigants, but the extra time and energy necessary to the passing into law of the Russell Bill would well repay the Legislature, not to mention the public good. One of the most important matters left out of the Government Bill is the provision that a man who obtains advice should know whether it is disinterested or not. As the memorandum to

the Russell Bill points out, “there is reason to fear that the practice of taking commissions for advice is prevalent in many of the professions amongst their less worthy members.” It is also not clear whether the giving of Christmas-boxes is covered by the Lord Chancellor's Bill. The memorandum to the old Bill states that they have been purposely omitted from the exceptions in that measure. Christmas-boxes, it is alleged, are frequently mere bribes, and a case is quoted where a bankrupt gave the manager of a bank “a case of various spirits, wines, champagne, and a box of cigars” while he wrote to the manager: “Please accept as a Christmas present. I trust,” he added, “that you will be able to go over with me to London some time, when I shall be able to buy you the drawing-room suite to your taste, which you will kindly accept as a present.” The memorandum also points out that traders and localities have formed combinations against Christmas-boxes, and it is urged that such efforts deserve encouragement. The Russell Bill expressly permits the tipping of railway-porters and like trivial but iniquitous palming. We suppose this was necessary, and that the general question of “tips” cannot be dealt with by legislation, though few people can be found to defend the practice. We would be more reconciled to the supplanting of the old Bill by the new concentrated edition, if we had hopes that even the new Bill will become law this Session. Unless there is an autumn sitting we see very little chance of this.

POSTCARD-COMPETITION AWARD.

The result of the postcard vote on the election to the Pharmaceutical Council shows a fairly intelligent anticipation of events by the competitors. None guessed the lucky seven, but three guessed six correctly and also placed three names in their proper order. These were:—

Mr. W. E. Plant, 23 High Street, Doncaster.

Mr. T. H. H. Francis, 9 Grand Parade, St. Leonards-on-Sea, and

Mr. George Hartley, c/o Messrs. J. & H. A. Averill, Stafford.

To each of these gentlemen we therefore award 7s. 6d., and the same amount to Mr. H. N. Stroud, 10 Friar Lane, Leicester, who, although he only guessed five correct names, placed four in the order in which they appeared on the poll.

THE SHILLING FEE.

In connection with the appeal for subscriptions to wipe out the expenses incurred in prosecuting the Strachan case, it cannot be out of place to emphasise the remark made by the Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society to the annual meeting last week to the effect that the Council accept the Court of Session's decision. This means that candidates in a similar position to Mr. Strachan will pay a shilling for re-examination. The declaration came with a sense of relief, as apparent in the councillors as in the members specially interested. We hope that the matter will end here, and that a fair trial will be given to the shilling-fee system before attempting to alter the by-law to a guinea as was intended.

EAST AFRICAN VETERINARY PRACTICE.

The report of Mr. R. J. Stordy, M.R.C.V.S., on his work in British East Africa and Uganda Protectorates for the years 1898-1900 is a concise epitome of labours, the magnitude of which it is difficult to gauge. Mr. Stordy wastes no paper with useless verbiage or pointless speculation, but puts all his remarks into, say, three royal-octavo pages. Under the heading “Tsetse-fly Disease,” he remarks casually that while studying the causes which rendered the island of Mombasa uninhabitable for horses, he ascertained that an organism, identical in morphology with that found in animals suffering from tsetse-fly disease, was found in donkeys which had been working for some time on the

island. He hopes to follow up his Mombasa investigations, but adds that this disease has been practically eradicated by the advent of the Uganda Railway with its excellent service of horse-boxes and fly-proof gauze windows. Edemamycosis, or South African horse-sickness, is a disease peculiar to Africa. The Paardzeekte form of the disease, in which an apparently healthy animal shows grave respiratory symptoms, with violent heaving of the flanks, and then dies suddenly with ejection of a cloud of foam from the nostrils and mouth, is the most common in Uganda. In the dikkopziekte form the head and neck swell up, and in the Blputong form the swelling is confined to the tongue. Much yet remains to be learned of the pathology of this disease, and Mr. Stordy urges the establishment of a laboratory in the East African Protectorate, where investigations into the elucidation of this malady may be carried out. Rinderpest and contagious pleuro-pneumonia exist to a slight extent, and sheep-pox broke out last year amongst the large Government flocks at the Eldama ravine, but thanks to the help of the Masai the disease has been stamped out. The "liverfluke" parasite is the cause of much mortality among the smaller ruminants. Draining and salting the swamps to curtail propagation is the remedy suggested. For malarial fever in cattle large doses of quinine given *per os* and hypodermically have been found beneficial. Tuberculosis is unknown in British East Africa. In conclusion, Mr. Stordy urges the advisability of utilising the zebra for transport-purposes, that animal being immune to the ravages of tsetse fly and horse-sickness. He is convinced that should the Government undertake a scheme of domestication for the zebra, a supply of animals would very soon be available not only for African service, but also for army-transport work at home or in India.

Photographic Notes.

By a Pharmaceutical Camerist.

CYANIDE RESTRAINER.

The use of potassium cyanide has not quite become extinct in photography, although dry-plates are almost universal. Mr. A. L. Henderson last year, before the London and Provincial Photographic Association, stated that he found it immensely superior to bromide as a restrainer. The following is the formula he uses for the restrainer and developer:—

(1)					
Quinol...	...	...	...	...	5ij.
Metol...	...	...	...	...	9ij.
Adurol...	...	...	...	...	9ij.
Water...	...	...	...	...	3xxvij.

(2)					
Sodium sulphite...	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Sodium hydrate...	...	...	...	...	3j.
Potassium carbonate...	...	...	...	...	3j.
Water...	...	...	...	...	3xxvij.

(3)					
Potassium cyanide...	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Water...	...	...	...	...	3xij.

Nos. 1 and 2 are mixed in equal proportions, and 1 oz. No. 3 added to every 4 oz.

It is stated that the best way is to have two lots of developer made up—one a mixture of Nos. 1 and 2, and another containing the restrainer. If the image flashes up the plate is at once transferred to the restrainer-containing developer.

DAYLIGHT LOADING,

as applied to the camera, is by no means a new idea. It may be useful at the present moment, whilst the battle of the films is proceeding, to note that *Notes and Queries* for April, 1855, gives an account from the *Journal* of the Photographic Society of Bombay of Captain Barr's dark slide for the paper-process in the camera, which is given as "one of great in-

genuity, and deserving the attention of photographers in England." The article describes how paper fastened on a roll of black calico and drawn flat over a sheet of glass can be exposed in the camera, but the part which interests most is the following:—

As a further precaution against light, and to guard against the evil effects of air upon the prepared paper, I leave the black calico band a foot larger than is necessary to carry all the papers; so that when all are wound round the roller the last five or six plies are plain calico, thus excluding light.

Captain Barr goes on to describe as an additional precaution against the Indian climate a method of storing the paper in a case from which the air has been pumped.

COPPER-TONING.

Ferguson's method of toning and intensifying with copper salts seems to be taking on. The difficulty had been to find a suitable solvent for the copper ferricyanide, but Mr. W. B. Ferguson found neutral potassium citrate to answer all requirements. The bath is composed of—

Potassium citrate (10-per-cent. sol.)	250 c.c.
Copper sulphate (10-per-cent. sol.)	35 c.c.
Potassium ferricyanide (10-per-cent. sol.)	30 c.c.

It seems rather amateurish to use the salts in 10-per cent. solutions, but if the above are mixed in the order given solution of the copper ferricyanide formed is assured. Bromide prints and lantern-slides can be toned from a purple-black to cherry-red, according to the time of immersion. The red-chalk effects are the most successful; the colder tones are not so pleasing.

MAKING GOLD CHLORIDE.

M. Reeb has communicated a paper to the Société d'Études Photographiques de Paris on the manufacture of gold chloride, which is worth abstracting:—

Thin sheet-gold	...	...	...	50 grammes.
Sodium chloride	...	...	...	15 grammes.
Nitric acid	...	...	...	40 c.c.
Hydrochloric acid	...	...	...	160 c.c.

Place in a porcelain dish on a sand-bath and dissolve. Cover the dish with a funnel to prevent waste during the process of solution. When solution has taken place evaporate till the salt begins to crystallise on the sides of the dish, then add 5 c.c. of aqua regia diluted with 50 c.c. of water, so as to ensure a slightly acid product, and dilute to 1,000 c.c. A solution is thus obtained which contains 10 per cent. of gold chloride, equivalent to 5 per cent. of metallic gold. Chemists who keep gold chloride in solution for adding to toning-baths will find this solution very convenient, and a saving in comparison with the crystallised salt.

SELF-DEVELOPING AND FIXING PAPER.

Messrs. J. E. Thornton and G. S. F. Rothwell have patented a process (17,738, 1899) of coating the back of sensitised paper with the needful developing and fixing chemicals, so that the paper has merely to be immersed in water for development and fixing to take place. The materials are made into a strong solution with sugar or dextrin, and applied to the back of the paper previously rendered waterproof by a coating of varnish. The sample developer given is metol, 2 gr.; quinol, 2 gr.; sodium carbonate (anhydrous), 10 gr.; sodium sulphite (anhydrous), 10 gr.; potassium bromide, $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. If a combination of developer and fixer is needed the following is used:—Sodium sulphite (anhydrous), 15 gr.; sodium hydrate, 9 gr.; sodium hyposulphite (anhydrous), 20 gr.; and kachin or pyrocatechin, 9 gr.

NEW CATALOGUES.

Messrs. Alfred Raines & Co., St. Mary's Road, Ealing, W., have issued a trade-list of prices for enlargements and printing in all styles. The list is illustrated with half-tone blocks of the several departments occupied by photographic work.

Mr. A. H. Baird, photographic-materials dealer, 33-39 Lothian Street, Edinburgh, has produced a new catalogue which contains several items of special interest to dealers. Mr. Baird, it will be remembered, is the maker of the successful Todd-Forret magnesium flash-lamp.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.—Deficiency Treated as Abstraction.—An analyst's certificate, which must disclose an offence before proceedings can be taken, said there was a deficiency in fat in a sample of milk, but said nothing about abstraction. The seller of the milk was charged under Section 9, which prohibits abstraction. Defendant's solicitor argued that the certificate did not justify proceedings under that section. The Magistrate decided against him.—(Southwark Borough Council v. Handsley, Lambeth Police Court, May 29.)

Geography and the Merchandise Marks Act.—A salesman in MacSymon's stores, Liverpool, sold Australian lamb when New Zealand lamb was asked for, and his employers have had to pay a 10*l.* fine and 7*l.* 7*s.* costs. It was proved that the carcass was in a Melbourne wrapper, but the salesman said he did not know whether Melbourne was in Australia or New Zealand, and invoiced it New Zealand when asked to by the prosecutors' (the New Zealand producers) agent. Moral, be sure of your geography, and do not sell Natal ginger as the Jamaica article.—(Liverpool Court, May 24.)

Welsbach Burner Trade-mark.—A firm of cycle-dealers were summoned for selling and possessing mantles with a mark nearly resembling the trade-mark registered by the Welsbach Gas Light Company, which consists of the three letters A. U. R. The mantles in defendants' possession and those sold by them were marked A. J. R. Defendants pleaded guilty, and stated that the mantles were purchased to supply a special order, that they were not sold as Welsbach mantles, and that the boxes containing the mantles were different from those used by the company. One partner of the firm, who was the rated occupier of the premises but not actively engaged in the business, was fined 5*l.* for selling, and the other partner was fined 14*l.* for selling and possessing. Five guineas costs were allowed, and the mantles seized were forfeited.

Interfering with the Shop-hours Act Inspector.—The Shop-hours Act gives inspectors power to make inquiries in regard to the labour of juveniles, and interference by employers is punishable. A case has just been decided in which a L.C.C. female inspector called at a coffee-house and commenced interrogating a boy under 18 employed there, and before she had finished her questioning the mistress called the boy away and informed the inspector that she would not allow the boy to come back or answer any more questions. The inspector produced her authority, and showed the lady that she would be liable to a penalty of 5*l.* if she did not allow the lad to be examined. The defence was that it was the worst time of the day, and that the inspector when asked refused to allow the boy to go and assist in getting the dinners ready. The Magistrate fined the mistress 40*s.* and 2*s.* costs.—(Thames Police Court, May 24.)

Administration Orders.—When a creditor applies to a County Court for committal of a debtor for non-payment of a judgment debt, the Court may, instead of committing him, make a receiving-order against him, except where the total liabilities do not exceed 50*l.*, in which case an order of administration may be made. It would be to the interests of retail traders especially if County Court Judges were to realise more fully how unsatisfactory the majority of administration orders are. Often a person, who states that his debts do not amount to more than 50*l.*, uses this means of delaying county-court proceedings, and a debtor of this class, who knows the ropes, frequently makes enforcements of these orders so troublesome to his creditors that they give up the contest, and he gets off scot free. At the Swindon County Court on May 15, the Judge complained that a local firm of credit drapers, in all cases where administration orders are applied for in which they are the creditors, object to the order being granted, without stating the ground for the objections. The solicitor for the firm replied that his clients had found administration orders had been a failure, for of all the orders made not more than four had been carried out. The Judge thereupon said he would endeavour to make the Act effective in Swindon, and that it might have some effect upon debtors if they knew that where an administration order was not carried out he would promptly annul it. The result will, of course, be that the debtors will go to prison.

Discharge without Notice.—The following case illustrates a point frequently raised by assistants in regard to trade custom as to notice of termination of engagement. Messrs. J. Barnes & Co. (Limited), who have general stores at Finchley, including a drug-department, were sued by an assistant for a month's salary in lieu of notice and commission on sales. Plaintiff said that his monthly earnings, including commission, amounted to 44*s.* with board and lodging, his salary being 33*s.* 4*d.* a month

and commission at the rate of 2*d.* in the pound on all goods sold. He was taken ill on April 10, and saw the firm's doctor, who ordered him home, the superintendent at the same time telling him to return as soon as he was better. He returned on April 27, when he was told that a letter had been posted to him informing him that the place could not be kept open, but as he had come back he could have a week's notice. He refused this, and claimed a month's notice or salary in lieu thereof. He admitted that he had signed an agreement in which it was "agreed that this date, or on any subsequent occasion, they (the firm) may terminate the engagement without notice or compensation of any kind." Plaintiff told the Judge that he did not read what he signed, and it was the custom of the trade that an assistant paid monthly should receive a month's notice, to which the Judge replied that there was no evidence of that custom, and that even if there was such a document as the plaintiff had signed would stand before trade custom. The company's secretary stated that in every case he either read over the agreement or asked the person being engaged to read it. The judgment was against the assistant.—(Marylebone County Court, May 18.)

County Court Cases.

SENT IN MISTAKE.

In the City of London Court on May 24, an action was brought by Mr. E. W. Cuebbin, 5 Fowkes Buildings, Great Tower Street, E.C., against Messrs. T. R. Williamson (Limited), oil-merchants, Ripon, to recover 6*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* for black oxide of manganese supplied. Two samples of oxide of manganese were sent to the defendants at their request, one of superior quality at 22*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. and the other was 12*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. An order was sent for 5 cwt. of the cheaper quality, but by mistake the better quality was sent. The plaintiff afterwards wrote expressing his regret that the wrong article had been despatched, and asked the defendants if they would take it on account at 10 per cent. off the price charged. Defendants said they would try the manganese, and plaintiff's solicitor urged that that was an acceptance of the whole of the goods. The defendants subsequently said the goods after trial were found to be useless for their purpose. Out of the total of 6½ cwt. which had been sent only ½ cwt. had been used. Evidence having been given the Deputy-Judge (Mr. G. Pitt Lewis, K.C.) gave judgment for the plaintiff for 11*s.* 3*d.*, with no costs on either side.

A PETROLEUM DEAL.

Mr. EDWARD ABRAHAM, chemist and druggist, Long Sutton, was sued at Holbeach County Court on May 22, by the Consolidated Petroleum Company (Limited), to recover 14*s.* 8*d.*, the price of 30 gals. of oil supplied. Defendant said the reason he refused to pay was on account of the extremely bad quality of the oil, by the sale of which he had lost custom. For what he had sold he paid 2*s.* 6*d.* into court. He had requested plaintiffs to remove the remainder, but they declined to do so. When he complained to the manager at King's Lynn, a reply was sent that it "was traced to an unfortunate mistake at headquarters." Mr. Hildon, the manager, now explained that he mentioned defendant's complaint to a traveller, who suggested that perhaps by a mistake an inferior quality was sent, and adopting that he wrote the postcard. Judge Shortt said the postcard was very definite, and plaintiffs must be bound by its admission. He should enter judgment for defendant on condition that he returned to plaintiffs the remainder of the oil.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re JOHN HUTCHINSON WOOD, 72 Handcroft Road, Croydon, Surrey, trading as a Chemist.

THE Official Receiver has issued a further report, in which he states that the debtor has now filed his statement of affairs, which shows gross liabilities 225*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*, of which 201*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* is expected to rank, and net assets 86*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*. The Sheriff's officer has sold the chattels for 26*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, and after deducting costs, rent, &c., the sum of 2*l.* 13*s.* is left. The "goodwill" is an unreasonable asset, and so far he (the Official Receiver) has been unable to obtain an offer for any interest in the lease 70 and 72 Handcroft Road, West Croydon, held by a creditor shown as fully secured. The public examination stands adjourned until June 12 at the Croydon County Court. The deficiency account is

as follows:—Excess of assets over liabilities on April 12, 1900, estimated if the business can be sold as a going concern, 80*l.*; net profit arising from carrying on business from April 12, 1900, to date of receiving order, after deducting usual trade expenses, estimated 100*l.*; profit on sale of business at the Southbridge Road, South Croydon, 5*l.*; rent of 70 Handcroft Road, Croydon, underlet, 13*l.*; deficiency, 115*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*; total amount to be accounted for, 313*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* Expenses incurred since April 12, 1900, other than trade expenses—viz., household expenses of self, wife, and three children, estimated 78*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*; expenses of wife's illness, estimated 20*l.*; loss in depreciation of goodwill, stock, fixtures, and fittings, and lease bought for 300*l.* and now valued at 85*l.*, 215*l.*; total amount accounted for, 313*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*

Re JAS. CHARNOCK MARSHALL, Castleton, near Rochdale, Manufacturing Chemist.—This debtor was examined at the Rochdale Bankruptcy Court on May 23 before the Registrar, Mr. J. T. Worth. After detailing the circumstances of his failure, the examination was adjourned for inquiries to be made respecting the ownership of certain property.

Re MARTIN WALDEMAR ADLER, 45 Station Road, Hove, late 57 Preston Street, Brighton, Chemist.—The adjourned public examination of this bankrupt was held at the Brighton Bankruptcy Court on May 23, and he was allowed to pass.

Re W. F. HACKNEY, South Street, Earlsfield, Wholesale and Retail Chemist.—A sitting for the adjourned public examination was held at the Wandsworth Bankruptcy Court on May 23, when the Assistant Official Receiver stated that bankrupt was still very ill and unable to surrender. A further adjournment was agreed to.

FORTY-FOUR years ago (says the *Financial Times*) the firm of Thomas Roper & Co., who carried on the business of wholesale druggists in Falcon Square, suspended payment, and were subsequently adjudicated bankrupts. This week an official announcement is made of a fifth and final dividend of eleven-twelfths of a penny. We fancy there will be some difficulty in tracing the original creditors.

Trust Deed.

Re JOHN ERSKINE, Kirkcudbright, Chemist and Druggist.

The statement of affairs as issued by Mr. Adam Brown, the trustee, shows liabilities amounting to 529*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*, and assets estimated to produce 170*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, less preferable claims 19*l.* 11*s.* This leaves 150*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* available for distribution subject to claims of Mrs. Erskine and Miss E. McCleave.

Deed of Arrangement.

Re ALFRED SMITH, Scarborough, A-rated-water Manufacturer. Trustee, Charles E. Bradley, Scarborough, chartered accountant. Date, April 30; filed, May 7. Secured creditors, 1,631*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*; liabilities unsecured, 1,194*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*; estimated net assets, 1,346*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* Assignment upon trust, &c. (subject to two indentures of mortgage, dated October 7, 1896, and February 18, 1898). The creditors include Rylands & Co. (Limited), Barnsley, 12*l.*; Clayton & Jowett, Liverpool, 16*l.*; Duckworth & Co., Manchester, 35*l.*; and Manchester Chemical Company, Manchester, 20*l.*

Gazette.

The Bankruptcy Acts 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

Wallis, Thomas (formerly carrying on business as Wallis & Co.), Wrexham, mineral-water manufacturer.

ADJUDICATION.

Furness, Arthur (trading as the Sheffield Toilet Supply Company), Sheffield, late Ecclesfield, purveyor of toilet articles.

Partnership Dissolved.

Hayllar, J., and Bradley, A., chemists, &c., Hoddesdon and Cheshunt, under the style of J. Hayllar & Co.

New Companies & Company News.

NOTTINGHAM SOAP COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of soap-boilers, candle-makers, manufacturers of and dealers in starch, water-softeners, soda, and laundry materials, glycerine-refiners, oil-merchants, box-makers, &c.

GILMOUR ALKALI MANUFACTURING SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in bleaching-powder and all compounds of the halogen series, caustic potash, caustic soda, and all compounds of the alkaline metals and earth, and all by-products of the foregoing. The subscribers are:—J. D. Gilmour, 190 Butterbiggin Road, Glasgow, chemist; James Menzies, Rutherglen, tube manufacturer; James Dirk, Greenhead Works, Greenhead Street, Glasgow, bootmaker; F. Sloane, 93 W. George Street, Glasgow, C.A.; W. McMillan, 98 W. George Street, Glasgow, accountant; Thomas Symington, Coatbridge, railway-contractor; and Hugh Moncrieff, 48 W. George Street, Glasgow, writer. The first directors are J. Menzies and T. Symington. Qualification, 100 shares. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 98 W. George Street, Glasgow.

MOORE'S CASH-CHEMIST (LIMITED).—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business at 36 and 58 Frederick Street, Rotherham, Yorks, as chemists, druggists, drysalers, oil and colour men, dealers in pharmaceutical and other medicinal preparations, drugs, dyewares, paints and cements, manufacturers of artificial teeth, grocers, provision-dealers, tea and coffee merchants, &c. The first subscribers are:—A. Moore, Whittington Moor, Chesterfield, chemist's manager; J. Moore, sen., 172 Nottingham Street, Rotherham, foreman fitter; John Moore, jun., Stone Lea, Eastwood, Rotherham, engineer; H. T. Twelves, Whittington, Chesterfield, clerk; Mrs. E. E. Moore, Whittington Moor, Chesterfield; Mrs. M. Twelves, Whittington Moor, Chesterfield; and Mrs. A. Moore, Stone Lea, Eastwood, Rotherham. No initial public issue. Table "A" mainly applies. Arthur Moore is the first and sole director and secretary. Qualification, 1*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the company.

R. GOODBURN & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement between J. A. Brookfield, of the one part, and E. Hobson, of the other part, for the acquisition of the business carried on at 642 Attercliffe Road, 162 Attercliffe Common, and 12 Barber Road, Sheffield, under the style or firm of "R. Goodburn," and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, herbalists, drysalers, oil and colour men, importers and manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical, and other preparations and articles, compounds, cements, oils, paints, pigments, varnishes, drugs, and dyewares, paint and colour grinders, makers of and dealers in proprietary articles of all kinds, and of chemical and scientific apparatus and materials, &c. The subscribers are:—Mrs. M. A. Newham, 9 Winter Street, Sheffield; Miss H. W. Webster, 9 Winter Street, Sheffield; Miss K. Brookfield, 9 Winter Street, Sheffield; J. A. Brookfield, 9 Winter Street, Sheffield, botanist; Mrs. S. Hobson, 162 Attercliffe Common, Sheffield; E. Hobson, 162 Attercliffe Common, Sheffield, manager; and T. Shearstone, 20 Bolton Street, Sheffield, assistant inspector, Post Office. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association.

ODIN SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 100,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the British, foreign, and other patents and patent rights for or in respect of the manufacture and preparation of a soluble alimentary extract for use as food, named "Odin," and all improvements thereon, to adopt an agreement with F. H. Bowman and T. Hill-Jones for the purchase of such patents and property and plant for the manufacture of "Odin" for 60,000 fully-paid shares, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in vegetable, animal, and other substances, vegetable foods, extracts and products, either alone or in combination with meat or other foods, extracts and products, food-preservers, shipowners, merchants, financiers, &c. The first subscribers are:—T. Hill-Jones, 31 Eagle Wharf Road, N., chemist; C. U. Fisher, 19 Holborn Viaduct, E.C., solicitor; W. E. Stone, 27 Westow Street, Upper Norwood, S.E., clerk; A. Weir, Rookwood, Mertham, Surrey, clerk; W. M. Sutherland, 53 Carysfort Road, Clissold Park, N., clerk; A. W. Brown, 37 St. Paul's Road, Kennington Park, S.E., clerk; F. W. Daffen, 19-20 Holborn Viaduct, E.C., clerk; and H. E. Julian, 278 Old Ford Road, N.E., clerk. No initial public issue. The first directors are F. H. Bowman, D.Sc., F.R.S.E., F.C.S., F.I.C., and T. Hill-Jones, F.C.S., M.S.C.I. Qualification, 100*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 31 Eagle Wharf Road, N.

RAIMES & CO. (LIMITED).—Messrs. Raimes & Co., of Ebor Works, Stockton-on-Tees and London, inform us that for family reasons the business has been transferred to a limited-liability company. The first directors are Mr. Frederick Raimes, Mr. Walter Raimes, Mr. Frederick Thomas Nattrass (secretary and cashier), and Mr. Herbert William Drabble (London manager), and none of the shares are offered for public subscription.

DR. TIBBLES' VI-COCOA (LIMITED).—The general meeting was held on May 21, Mr. Thomas Smith presiding. In moving the adoption of the report—in which a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum was recommended—the chairman stated that the profit during the past twelve months had not been as large as the directors had expected. Owing to unavoidable delay on the part of the building and machinery contractors, the directors did not get into possession of the new premises at Watford until too late for the Christmas chocolate trade. This involved a serious loss. They were pleased, however, to state that the factory as well as the new box factory was now in working order. The liabilities were small, and were more than covered by trade debtors. During the last two years exceptionally high prices of all materials had militated against large profits. At the last meeting it was stated that the company had over 100,000% invested in Consols, British railway debenture stock, and other securities. The present value of this class of investment at cost was 112.184%, while stock, freehold land, plant, buildings, machinery, fixtures, fittings, &c., amounted to 142.057%. In order to save the necessity for selling Consols and railways shares at a loss, owing to the depression in all classes of securities, it had been thought best to borrow from the bank on the security of part of the shares, in order to pay for the new factory, machinery, &c., pending a rise in the market on such securities. Sir W. Treloar seconded the motion, which was carried.

Association Affairs.

PUBLIC AND POOR-LAW DISPENSERS' ASSOCIATION.

The last meeting of the Session was held at St. Bride's Institute, Ludgate Circus, on May 29, the President (Mr. F. Noad Clark) in the chair. There was a good attendance.

CALOMEL AND IODOFORM.

Mr. Turner drew attention to the chemical change which takes place when a mixture of equal parts of starch-powder, iodoform, and calomel is exposed to sunlight. In these circumstances the powder quickly changes to red, and an analysis showed that biniodide of mercury is formed. He exhibited two samples of the powders which were mixed at the same time. One had kept the original colour by being protected from light, and the other (exposed) was bright red.

In the discussion which followed it was suggested that the attention of the medical officer be called to the serious consequences which might result by using this dusting-powder, as the vesicating properties of the red sample might have a painful influence upon syphilitic sores. Mr. Duff deprecated the idea of saying anything to the prescriber—all the dispenser had to do was to dispense the mixed powders in a gallipot, in order to keep them from the light.

Mr. C. Spencer then read a paper on

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PRESCRIBER AND THE DISPENSER.

While admitting that it is desirable for the pharmacist to work hand in hand with the physician, the author did not think the Union of much advantage to the chemist in a small way. If medical men insist on pseudo-dispensing, chemists must prescribe. Passing on to the congenial theme of dispensing by doctors, their wives, grooms, and cooks, Mr. Spencer told of a soldier-friend of his, just returned from India, who assured him that the army doctor had taught him all the Latin names of drugs and how to dispense any prescription, in the short space of two months. Medical men, he contended, are not competent to dispense. Broaching the subject of the teaching of pharmacy in the medical curriculum to three doctors recently, one told him that eighty hours of pharmacy was the limit, another said he had

done forty hours in his five-years' course, and the third did not remember having done any at all. In connection with dispensing in surgeries, he recalled an article which appeared in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST some time ago by a dispenser who did temporary dispensing-duty to an East-end doctor, whose principal prescription was the cipher letters "A. D. T." Mr. Spencer upheld the practice of prescribing for simple ailments by chemists, and said if he ever went into business again he would have a regular consulting-room on his establishment, where instead of charging for advice and giving medicine free, as the majority of the medical profession do, would charge for the medicine and give advice free.

The discussion elicited several humorous personal reminiscences from the members, notably Mr. Goodall, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Dunstan. The Chairman said Mr. Spencer's views were certainly to the point, but he thought the whole subject was entirely a question of individuality. Mr. Miller thought that chemists by approaching doctors on the subject could in many cases come to an amicable arrangement as regards dispensing.

CARDIFF PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the members of this Association was held at the Park Hotel, Cardiff, on May 29, Mr. A. Hagon presiding. The Secretary (Mr. W. J. Sanders) read a letter he had received from Lord Avebury, stating that he noticed the Cardiff Association was in favour of the

SHOPS EARLY-CLOSING BILL,

and asking if they would send up a petition in support. The President and Secretary were authorised to sign the petition forwarded, and return it to Lord Avebury.

A letter of apology was read from the Vice-President (Mr. J. A. Jones), who stated that he was in touch with the Corporation head park-keeper, and that everything was getting into nice order for those chemists who desired to study botany in the public parks from a pharmaceutical standpoint.

After some discussion, the President suggested, and Mr. Templar Malins moved, that a whole-day picnic be arranged for the second Wednesday in July. The motion was adopted, and the following were appointed a committee to carry out the details:—The President, and Messrs. J. A. Jones, J. Reynolds, Templar Malins, A. Coleman, and A. J. Bellamy, together with the Hon. Secretary.

Mr. A. Coleman afterwards read a short paper on the

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE BOOKS.

He said that when the Conference visited Cardiff in 1891, during the mayoralty of the late Marquess of Bute, they, in accordance with usual custom, presented to the chemists of the town a handsome set of volumes from the Bell, Hills, and Hanbury's funds. The choice was left to the local Executive Committee, and the books received were "The National Dispensatory," Dorvault's "L'Officine," Watts' "Dictionary of Chemistry," Meyers' "Modern Theories of Chemistry," Proctor's "Practical Pharmacy," Watts-Fownes' "Chemistry," Fluckiger and Hanbury's "Pharmacographia," and Hanbury's "Science Papers." The Committee at the time approached the Public Free Library Committee, who kindly consented to deposit the books in the Reference Library, and to place them in a glass case by themselves, so as to be readily accessible for reference and study when required. With the idea of finding out whether the agreed conditions were being complied with, he (Mr. Coleman) paid a surprise visit to the Library a few days ago, and inquired for the chemists' case of books. The clerk was not cognisant of its existence, but upon being presented with a form for Watts' "Dictionary of Chemistry" he quickly produced the three volumes in good condition, but a trifle dusty. Mr. Coleman suggested that their Secretary should ask the librarian to place these books in a distinct glass case, provided with lock and key, and put upon the readers' side of the counter, so that a chemist might be enabled to consult any of the volumes without further trouble. If these details were satisfactorily arranged the way would be opened for generous members of the body pharmaceutical to contribute from their own libraries other books for reference and study. Mr. Coleman concluded by intimating that he should have much pleasure in presenting seventeen volumes of the *Year-book of Pharmacy*. He was thanked for his paper.

Westminster Wisdom.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY AND GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL.

In the House of Commons on May 23, Mr. McKenna called attention to the appointment of Dr. Henry W. Irvine as an inspector of His Majesty's schools at Birmingham. Dr. Irvine, he said, was brought before the General Medical Council on the charge that he had accepted the office of consulting physician to an institution at Birmingham, and approved or acquiesced in advertisements by that institution setting forth and inviting the public to consult him at a reduced fee. The charge had been proved. The Medical Council regarded his conduct as of a serious nature, and suspended the case for six months to allow him to clear his character of the charge; but before the expiration of that time the doctor withdrew from medical practice, and was appointed an inspector of schools. Mr. McKenna thought such inspectors ought not to be appointed from doctors who were under a charge of delinquency, as in his own profession this doctor had been brought under the ban of the properly constituted authority. Why was it that the moment they touched a case from Birmingham they always had to inquire more deeply into the causes which had led to preferment or promotion?

Mr. Chamberlain, in reply, said the speech they had listened to was characteristic of the honourable gentleman who made it, and of the quarter of the House from which it came. He had not given notice of the attack which he had made, but in the present instance he (Mr. Chamberlain) knew something of the facts of the case. Certain gentlemen in Birmingham, among whom were prominent Mr. Arthur Chamberlain, Mr. Alderman Cooke, and other gentlemen of all politics, devised a new charity for the town absolutely and entirely from philanthropic motives, and the object was to secure to the working classes of Birmingham the advantages of consultation with eminent practitioners, which they could not get under existing circumstances without payment beyond their means. The object was to secure a gentleman of high professional reputation as consulting physician, to whom this charitable institution would be able to send the working people who might be in need of its services. Dr. Irvine was chosen. The moment he was so chosen the greatest possible objection was taken on behalf of the medical profession. The complaint was taken to the Medical Council, and the Council gave it as their decision that if this gentleman did not retire from the position to which he had been appointed they would do something—he supposed strike him off the register. That was the whole charge against this gentleman, and that was the whole punishment that could by any possibility be inflicted on him. He (Mr. Chamberlain) had never seen or spoken to Dr. Irvine in his life, he had never recommended him or suggested him, nor had he even heard of his name until Mr. McKenna introduced it. The Vice-President of the Council would no doubt say why this gentleman was appointed inspector of schools. It was in connection with a story like this, of a charity in which men of all classes and all politics in Birmingham were concerned, that the honourable gentleman got up and, with an air of mystery, appeared to wish the House to believe that he had discovered a plot in which the Secretary of State for the Colonies was concerned. (Cheers.)

Sir W. Foster said the Medical Council had power under the Medical Act to inquire into the conduct of medical men. The Act said that if any registered medical practitioner should be convicted in England or Ireland of any felony or misdemeanour, or in Scotland of any crime or offence, or should after due inquiry—which had been held in this case—be judged by the General Council to have been guilty of infamous conduct in any professional respect, certain consequences should follow.

Mr. Chamberlain: Does the hon. gentleman say that to take lower fees than are usual is infamous conduct? (Cheers.)

Sir W. Foster said that it did not lie in his power to give the definition. The definition had been given by thirty eminent men. They had defined it in this case because they had found the man guilty—(cries of "Guilty of

what?")—guilty of what they considered to be unprofessional conduct. (Laughter.) They might direct the Registrar to erase the name of a culprit from the Medical Register. In this case the Council considered the charges of unprofessional conduct proved; but they had not proceeded at once to exact the full penalty of striking the practitioner off the register, but had, as it were, remanded him to come up for judgment in six months. Over and over again the decisions of the Council had been challenged in courts of law, and the Judges had always upheld them on the ground that the Council was the only body competent to decide what was "infamous conduct." He contended, purely on public grounds, that no man in such a position as this doctor, awaiting the judgment of the General Medical Council on a charge of which he had been found guilty, ought to have been appointed to high public office, especially as the body which made the appointment—the Privy Council—ruled the General Medical Council.

Sir J. Gorst (Cambridge University) said that Dr. Irvine had been selected from a large number of candidates for an inspectorship of schools by the Lord President of the Council as the man, from his very exceptional qualifications, best fitted for the office. Dr. Irvine had a very distinguished degree of Trinity College, Dublin, and, not being a man of great means, he had supported himself before and after he had taken his medical degree by acting as a teacher and master in several secondary schools in Ireland. At the time the appointment was made his noble friend the Lord President of the Council and he had not heard of this charge against Dr. Irvine. But even if the matters alleged in the course of the debate had been brought to the notice of the Board of Education they would have seen in them no reason whatever for reconsidering their decision. (Cheers and laughter.)

The closure was then applied, and the incident ended.

PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION.

This Bill, originally drafted by Lord Russell of Killowen, and again introduced into the House of Lords by his successor, Lord Alverstone, contains twenty-seven clauses, and these are explained and supported by a long memorandum printed with the Bill. The following is a concise summary of the contents:—

Clause 1 and 2 (payments) make the gift, offer, receipt, and solicitation of corrupt payments offences. The word "corrupt" is not defined, because the memorandum adds, "the thing is so protean that to define it is impossible"; and we are told that for this reason the Courts have always declined to define "fraud."

Clause 3 to 8 state that the following specific transactions are corrupt:—Gifts to and receipts by an agent or his parent, wife, or issue without notice to his principal, under such circumstances that they could be recovered by the principal from the agent on the ground of the agent's fiduciary character. Gifts to or receipts by an agent in consideration for giving advice, without the knowledge of the person receiving the advice. Offers or solicitations of above gifts.

Clause 9 makes it penal for a person to give advice to another with intent to procure, without the knowledge of person receiving the advice, gain or benefit for himself.

Clause 10 requires that where an agent who, in order to carry out his principal's instructions, employs a broker, the sale note receipt, invoice, account, or other documents shall state the amount of the commission on that transaction which the agent receives, and a correct copy of such document must be given to the principal.

Clause 11 renders it an offence to give a misleading receipt or account.

Clause 12 and 13 deal with variations of the above offences.

Clause 14 enacts the penalty, which is imprisonment with or without hard labour for one year, or fine not exceeding 500*l.*, or both fine and imprisonment, in addition to a liability to pay to the principal the amount of the valuable consideration corruptly received.

Clause 15 to 23 deal with the jurisdiction of courts, protection of witnesses, expenses of prosecution, &c.

Clause 24 contains the interpretations, the most important of which is that of "valuable consideration." This shall include any money, gift, loan, office, place, employment, fee, reward, benefit, or advantage whatsoever, and any forbearance to demand any money, or money's worth, or valuable thing. These are three exceptions:—

A bail or gratuity given by a guest to a servant of his host; a gratuity to a servant, porter, railway-guard, or other like person for a legitimate service rendered; and meat or drink or accommodation reasonably given by way of hospitality.

Clauses 25 and 26 apply the Act to Scotland, and postpone the operation of the Act until January 1, 1902.

A second Prevention or Corruption Bill was introduced by the Lord Chancellor into the House of Lords last week. It consists of three clauses only. Clause 1, which is as follows, is the essence of the Bill:—

If any person

- (a) being an agent, corruptly and without the knowledge of his principal, accepts or obtains, or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain, from any person, for himself or for any other person, any gift or consideration, as an inducement or reward for doing or forbearing to do any act in relation to his principal's business, or for showing or forbearing to show favour or disfavour to any person in relation to his principal's business; or
- (b) corruptly gives or offers any such gift or consideration to any agent; or
- (c) knowingly gives to any agent any receipt, account, or other document in respect of which the principal is interested, which contains any statement which is false or erroneous, or defective in any important particular, and which to his knowledge is intended to mislead the principal,

he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding one year, or to a fine not exceeding five hundred pounds.

Clause 2 directs that proceedings can only be instituted by consent of the law officers of the Crown, and also deals with administration. Clause 3 names the Bill, and states that it shall come into operation on January 1, 1902.

Lord Alverstone intimated that he would hang up the Russell Bill in the hope that this smaller measure may pass this Session. The whole subject is referred to in our Editorial columns.

EXCISE-DUTY ON GLUCOSE.

In the House of Commons last week, Mr. Bartley pointed out the anomaly that while imported glucose had been taxed since April 19 last, English-made glucose had no duty imposed on it during that time. The Chancellor of the Exchequer pointed out that an excise-duty could not be levied without a considerable amount of machinery for regulating the process of manufacture. July 1 had been fixed for the impost to come into operation, but he would endeavour to fix an earlier day.

THE METRIC SYSTEM.

In reply to Mr. Brigg (Keighley), who referred to the report of the Consul of La Rochelle, in which it is said that the neglect of the metric system is a great stumbling-block to many branches of trade with the United Kingdom, and who asked if the First Lord of the Treasury will assist to bring about the necessary changes in our system of weights and measures as suggested in the report,

Mr. Arthur Balfour replied that the Act of 1897 removes the restrictions which formerly existed on trade weights and measures, and the use in trade of the metric system. A number of metric standards have been already approved by an Order in Council of May, 1898, after being verified by the Board of Trade.

OPIUM-PRODUCTION IN INDIA.

In the House of Commons on May 23, Mr. Samuel Smith (Flintshire) asked the Secretary of State for India if he is aware that the number of acres under poppy-cultivation in Bengal during 1898-99 was 564,000, an increase of 24,000 on the previous year; that the number of chests of opium manufactured in the Bengal Government factories in 1898-99 was 54,192, as against 46,834 in 1897-98; and that the payments made to cultivators of the poppy in Bengal by the Indian Government in the same year amounted to Rs. 2,217,786, as against Rs. 2,021,536 in the previous year, being the largest amount in the decade; and, seeing that the pass-duty on opium exported from the Malwa States was lowered in 1897 to 500r. per chest, being the lowest figure at which it has stood for nearly forty years, in order to overcome the competition of other crops and prevent the poppy from being driven out of cultivation in those States, whether he proposes to taken any steps to discourage the increased growth and manufacture of opium in India.

Lord G. Hamilton, in reply, admitted the increase in 1898-99, but the production of that year was greatly below that of several successive years of the preceding decade, nor was the quantity of opium manufactured for export and for internal consumption in 1893-99 as great as the average quantity annually exported during 1885-90. As the production of opium in India varies greatly from year to year, and has not increased, but diminished, on a comparison of the decade ended 1899 with the decade ended 1889, he saw no reason for taking action to discourage the growth and manufacture of opium in India.

MILK IN BUTTER.

A large firm of butter-merchants have recently established a factory for blending butters. During the process they mix milk with the butter. An enormous trade appears to have been done in this article. The local authorities, backed up by the Board of Agriculture, are trying to put a stop to this manipulation, which was described by the public analyst as "twentieth-century" mode of adulteration. The Margarine Act definition of butter is that it is "a substance usually known as butter made exclusively from milk or cream, or both." It would be difficult, therefore, to prove that milk is an adulterant, and the authorities have prosecuted on the ground of excessive moisture (over 20 per cent., 16 per cent. being the natural limit). A number of cases have been heard in the Birmingham district, and Mr. Beck, for the defence, has succeeded in getting, in two or three instances, cases stated for the High Courts, and in the majority of the other prosecutions he has induced the Magistrates to stay proceedings pending the result of the appeals, but at Brierley Hill a seller has been fined 20*l.* and costs. Mr. Beck argues that the Act has not been broken, that milk is a well-recognised constituent of butter and in no sense a foreign substance, and the milk used is the best full-cream milk and is blended with genuine butter. Last week questions were asked in the House of Commons, with a view to urging the Board of Agriculture to carry out the powers given them under the 1900 Act to fix a definite standard for butter. Mr. Hanbury promised to hurry on with the standard, and admitted the importance of the cases under review.

WINE-DUTY.

In the House of Commons on May 23, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to a question by Mr. James O'Connor, said that under the Warehousing Code, traders may fortify wine in a bonded warehouse, by the addition of spirit, to an amount not exceeding 10 per cent., provided that the wine, if entered for home consumption, is not raised to a greater strength than 40 per cent. of proof spirit. No duty is charged on the spirit used, but the wine-duty of 1*s.* 3*d.* or 3*s.* a gallon, according to the percentage of proof spirit, is charged on the whole quantity of the fortified wine when it is delivered for home consumption. The general opinion is that inferior wines are naturally more liable to deterioration, either in or after leaving bond, than those of a superior class.

THE publisher of the *C. & D.* desires to warn the trade in Birmingham that one or two men there are collecting subscriptions for the *C. & D.* without authority. No subscription should be paid to anyone who is unable to give an office-receipt on behalf of the proprietors of the *C. & D.*

"THE ART OF DISPENSING."—As a book of reference for the mature pharmacist and as a text-book for the student preparing for examination the work is alike invaluable. The former editions of this book have always been popular in this colony. The present edition can hardly fail to become much more so.—HOWARD WHITEHEAD (Adelaide, S.A.).

FAVUS is a parasitic fungus very prevalent amongst poultry, and of a destructive nature. It attacks the comb or wattles first, its presence being revealed by the appearance of small, pale, irregular, cuplike spots on these parts. The treatment consists in bathing the invaded parts with warm water and soft soap, and then applying some ointment to destroy the parasite. Silver nitrate, 5 per cent. in lard, is good. Red mercuric oxide, 12.5 per cent. in lard, has also proved successful. Powdered zinc, copper, and iron salts rubbed on the damp comb have also been found useful.

The Medical Exhibition.

NOTWITHSTANDING the heat, there was a good attendance of visitors at the Medical, Surgical, and Hygienic Exhibition, held this week at the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W. It was noticeable also that the expression "Yes, doctor" used by the attendants was appropriate in nine cases out of ten, so that the class of visitors it was hoped to attract evidently came.

The largest section was that devoted to

FOODS.

Under this head we noted such foods as Manhu, Cheltine, Protene, Plasmon, and Somatose. The Somatose, in addition to the powder form in which it is familiar to chemists, is sold as a dark, viscid liquid, 2 oz. of the liquid equalling 2 oz. of the solid; a little trouble in mixing is thus saved. Messrs. G. Van Abbott & Sons had an assortment of diabetic foods, a newer one being the Midolia biscuits, which, besides being cheap, are palatable. Then there were such old friends as Cadbury's cocoa, Cox's gelatin, the Liebig Company's Lemco and Peptarnis, Hipi, the special mutton-essence of Nelson, Dale & Co. (Limited), Nestlé's and the Viking milks, Hoff's malt-extract, and Brand's essence. Messrs. Brand & Co are finding the sale of their newer products, "nutrient-powder" and "fever-food," increasing, medical men finding them useful in their special spheres. Messrs. Cosenza & Co., the makers of the well-known Maggi's Consommé, claim to have sent out to South Africa over a million rations of the Maggi's Cross Star soups. Another firm who have been kept busy supplying rations for use at the war is Bovril (Limited); the bovril baby—Virol—is, we noticed, now put up in nice cartons. Under this head can be included Cerebos, which was being attractively advertised by a booklet entitled "What! 6d. for Salt?"

PHARMACEUTICALS

were represented by Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., whose stand is made noticeable by three huge bottles of antiphtheria serum, labelled to the effect that it has been examined and certified in the laboratories of the R.C.P. (Lond.) and S. (Eng.). It is useful to know that this firm willingly exchange any bulbs of the serum which have been in stock beyond the guarantee-time of twelve months. Adrenalin, the active principle of the suprarenal gland, which has only recently been introduced, was attracting much attention from medical men, some of whom could hardly credit that a crystalline substance could be separated from the gland. Messrs. Oppenheimer, Son & Co. (Limited) had a large number of their palatinoids, a feature being made of animal substances in that form; we counted fourteen varieties of palatinoids of animal substances. The Abbey Effervescent-salt Company (Limited) were distributing sample-bottles of the Abbey Salt, and so bringing it directly to the notice of the profession. Mr. M. Hoff had Dr. Enoch's liquor ironol on tap, the vegetable combination of the iron making it readily absorbable. Mr. F. A. Rogers maintained his reputation for simple but effective throat and ear sprays. A new form of the Rogers' spray is adapted for using the contents of a "hypodermule" as a spray. Suprarenal-gland solution, used in hay fever and nasal catarrh, is especially intended for using in this little apparatus. Other new things here were a throat-brush, from which the end could be unscrewed and changed for a sponge-swab if needed, an inexpensive glass aural syringe with which the patient cannot injure the ear, and cyprol, or cypress oil, a whooping-cough remedy. Messrs. Cooper & Co.'s oxygenated waters were the feature of their exhibit, and "Globeraris" water the special preparation "Globena," again, is the generic name of a series of meat-essences. The oxycarbonated fluid magnesia, a good line for retailing, is attractively put up in card cases. Messrs. Fairchild, Brothers & Foster showed their pepsin "pepules," and such newcomers as "Enzymol," a physiological solvent and deodoriser for surgical cases, and "Diazyme," an animal diastasic essence with powerful converting action on farinaceous food. Panopepton, pepsencia, and pepsin in scales were also being exhibited. Edgar's Croup Lotion

(Limited) had two stands in different parts of the building, consisting of the familiar dark-blue packages of Edgar's croup-lotion, to advertise which a new and attractive show-card is just out. Messrs. Arthur & Co., among new medical and toilet preparations, made a speciality of the oxybromides of arsenic, mercury, and gold. Rebman (Limited) had a wonderful variety of serums and vaccines; we noticed Lustig's & Haffkine's anti-plague vaccines, mallein, tuberculin, Coley's fluid, antistreptococcus serum and antityphoid serum. Tegmine is a new epidermal after-treatment for vaccination. Mention of vaccination reminds us that the representative of the Sanitary Wood-wool Company says the *C. & D.* man at Glasgow must have been dreaming when he said that the Hartmann wool-wool vaccination-pad could not be supplied fast enough. It almost made us blush for that young man when we were told of the hundreds of thousands of these pads that were actually sold in Glasgow. Messrs. Newton, Chambers & Co. (Limited), the proprietors of Izal, are, after the strong representation of the antiseptic as a remedy for dysentery, putting up several forms for internal use. It should be noted that "medical" Izal is the kind for use in prescriptions. Jeyes' Sanitary-compounds Company (Limited), with no new developments, are finding "Jeyes' Soluble Fluid," which forms a clear solution with water, in favour just now with the medical profession.

APPARATUS.

Pasteur (Chamberland) filters were shown by Messrs. J. Defries & Sons (Limited), who also make disinfecting machinery, whilst the Berkefeld Filter Company (Limited) exhibited several forms of their germ-proof filters. The "Gem" still is one being sold for producing distilled water, which we were told is of such a design that the I.R. authorities permit it to be used without licence [? ED.] The warmth of the Dowsing Radiant-heat Company (Limited's) apparatus was tempered by close proximity to the Blackman fan exhibit. Mr. A. W. Cox (Limited) and Messrs. A. Rosenberg & Co. were showing x-ray apparatus, the coils made by the latter being mounted on oak. Messrs. J. Tylor & Sons (Limited), Messrs. Doulton & Co. (Limited), and Mr. George Jennings (Limited) had sanitary ware on show, Doulton's likewise exhibiting some pharmaceutical earthenware, such as mortars and pill-tiles. Surgical instruments were the chief things shown by Messrs. Down Brothers and Mr. W. K. Stacy. The Domen Belts Company had a new design in their excellent belts—the straight-fronted belt-corset—which does not press on the epigastric region, and is thus made more comfortable for sufferers from gastric troubles. The Domen stoop-cure appliance, made in two patterns, is now supplied at the uniform selling price of 10s. 6d.

Chemicals were shown by Messrs. Boake, Roberts & Co. and Mr. E. Merck. Mr. Merck's exhibit was a characteristic one of fine chemicals, with such new things as jequiritol, pyoktonin, and iodipin and bromipin capsules.

Wines were exhibited by Messrs. Stephen Smith & Co. (Limited), the newest one being the "Keystone" burgundy. "You might tell chemists we can supply all kinds of spirits and wines now" was a message we received here. The Dry Wine Company showed a new wine called "Vinzoc," stated to be made of "dry sherry, essence of beef, pepsin, and aromatics."

Trade Notes.

"CROWN" GOODS.—We inadvertently stated last week that the special discount offer of the Crown Perfumery Company is for assorted orders of 2*l*, but we have since learned that it exclusively applies to orders for Crab Apple Blossom and Lavender Salts.

PALATINOIDS.—In reference to Sir James Crichton Browne's speech at the annual dinner of the Pharmaceutical Society last week, Mr. William Oppenheimer, director of Messrs. Oppenheimer, Son & Co. (Limited), writes to us explaining that Sir James was labouring under a wrong impression when he attributed self-drugging to palatinoids amongst other convenient forms of medication, as palatinoids have all along been put up for dispensing only with the distinct intention of preventing them getting into the hands of the public except through medical prescription.

WHITE ROSE TOILET POWDER.—Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, Aldersgate Street, E.C., have introduced an elegant toilet powder under this name. It is made with a pure, impalpable basis, richly scented with rose, and is put up in an elegant and finished manner. The round-cornered boxes are covered with leatherette in pale cream and pink colours, and the powder within them is contained in a paper envelope which opens somewhat after the fashion of the "Prince of Wales" tobacco-pouch. The powder is put up in outer boxes of three, and is in all respects so *recherché* that it will soon be a favourite with customers who like a first-class article.

ALBARGIN is the name which Messrs. Meister, Lucius & Brünig (Limited), 51 St. Mary Axe, E.C., apply to a fluffy yellowish powder obtained by the interaction of silver nitrate and gelatose, and containing 15 per cent. of silver. The utility of albumen compounds of silver in the treatment of gonorrhœa is well established, but it has been found that considerable irritation occasionally follows their use. It is claimed for albargin that it does not irritate, and that, while possessing the antiseptic properties of the true albumen silver compounds, its solutions dialyse more rapidly, and are therefore more efficacious. Albargin dissolves readily in water. As a rule, 0.2 per cent. aqueous solutions are employed; if symptoms of severe inflammation are present only 0.1 to 0.15 per cent. solutions are used at first. It is obtainable in powder and in tablets, each of the latter containing 3 gr. (0.2 gramme) of the substance.

MESSRS. SANGER & SONS, 2 Winsley Street, Oxford Street, W., have just published a new "Price Current." As a preface it contains concise information respecting medicated wines, registration of trade-marks, medicine stamp duty and licences, and the sale of poisons. This is followed by a special price list for quantities of the most popular proprietary articles, then a general catalogue of proprietary medicines, toilet articles, and the like, which is printed on white paper. On green paper is a complete illustrated list of druggists' and general sundries extending to 334 pages, besides an index. A pink portion of the list is devoted to photographic supplies, which the firm have been consistently pushing for some years. A pocket on the cover of the price list, somewhat in *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY* style, is provided for the monthly list of alterations and additions, and the outside of this pocket bears a useful table showing the net amount of any account or net price of any article after deducting discount of 10 and 5 per cent.

SCHIEFFELIN PRODUCTS.—Messrs. Potter & Sacker, of Fowkes Buildings, Great Tower Street, E.C., send us samples of half-a-dozen new liquid preparations made by their principals, Messrs. Schieffelin & Co., of New York. Four of these are combinations containing heroine, the ethyl derivative of morphia, which is making steady headway in professional appreciation as a remedy for congestion of the respiratory passages. Elixir eupenin is an agreeable combination of heroine, terpene hydrate, and creosote; and elixir of heroine and terpene hydrate (otherwise elixir heroterpin) is the same without the creosote. Both are cough sedatives for ordinary use, and especially for consumptives. The manufacturers have also hit upon the happy idea of combining heroine with hypophosphites, and in syrup herophosphites and solution herophosphites the combination is available as a tonic and sedative. The firm also produce an elixir of iron and manganese peptonates with arsenic and benzolyptus, a fragrant antiseptic. Any subscriber who desires physicians' samples of these compounds should apply to Messrs. Potter & Sacker.

ADVICE GRATIS.—Dr. Yarrow, one of the Deputy-Coroners of London, and a member of the Holborn Board of Guardians, had a word to say on the subject of disinfection at the meeting of the Board on Wednesday. There had been an outbreak of puerperal fever at the City Road Workhouse, and the members were alarmed lest it should spread. The Chairman (Mr. Enos Howes, J.P.) said there had been one death as a consequence, and the bedding and the patient's clothing had been destroyed, and the ward thoroughly disinfected and cleansed. Dr. Yarrow asked what they disinfected with. The Chairman: Carbolic. Dr. Yarrow: Carbolic is rather out of favour as a disinfectant unless used in large quantities. The best germicide, in my opinion, is perchloride of mercury in solution. Carbolic is good in some cases, but the mercury is the best germ-killer. Mr. Geo. Eade: And with plenty of ventilation and cold water the disease may be stamped out.

American Notes.

(From our New York Correspondents.)

REMOVALS.—The branch offices of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., in Chicago, are now situated in a new three-storey building at 44 and 46 Franklin Street.—The Chicago branch of Messrs. W. R. Warner & Co. has moved into a new building at 47 Franklin Street.

ZINC-OXIDE GROUND IN OIL for the preparation of zinc ointment is being offered by a firm of manufacturing chemists. It is said to make a nicer preparation, and will materially lighten the labour of the retailer. The oxide is supplied ground in sesame oil or in benzoated lard.

PERSONAL ITEMS.—Mr. C. I. Hood, of C. I. Hood & Co., Boston, will sail for Liverpool early in June.—Mr. Andrew Pears, of Pears (Limited), has been visiting New York, where he told an interviewer that the house of Pears is not likely to become extinct, since he has seven sons and three daughters.

THE WAR REVENUE TAX.—In anticipation of the abolition of this tax on proprietary articles on July 1 manufacturers are announcing the course they will pursue with regard to prices. With singular unanimity the larger manufacturers state that no reduction in prices will be made on account of the repeal of the stamp-tax "owing to the greatly increased cost of manufacture." This is scarcely acceptable to the retailers, and a boycott will probably be attempted.

SUPRARENAL GLAND is enjoying an enormous "boom" just now in New York for all inflammatory affections of the nose and throat. Its use in this connection was suggested by Dr. W. H. Bates, of New York, who applies it locally in 10 per cent. aqueous solution. The effect is noticeable inside of a minute, and the relief it affords in acute rhinitis, coryza, or inflammation of the nasal sinuses is said to be remarkable. Nose and throat specialists pronounce it the discovery of the century, and hay-fever victims are assured of immunity in the coming summer season.

A **JOURNAL FOR THE A.P.H.A.** is again being mooted, and the suggestion will probably be brought before the American Pharmaceutical Association at its forthcoming meeting that the Association publish a journal of its own. The projectors point with satisfaction to the success of the *British Medical Journal* and the *Journal of the American Medical Association* as indication of what the A.P.H.A. could do. The *American Druggist*, however, unfeelingly draws attention to the enormous annual deficit on the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, and wonders where the A.P.H.A. will land with an income less than one-tenth that of the P.S.G.B.

THE P.A. OF A. MEETING.—The nineteenth annual meeting of the Proprietary Association of America was held in New York City on May 1 and 2. Considerable expectations were formed of important developments being mooted in connection with the suppression of cutting in proprietary articles, as the Association has a membership representing, it is said, a majority of the leading manufacturers of proprietary medicines in the United States. From a perusal of the two days' proceedings we gather that the Association is adopting a kind of a mugwump policy in regard to this burning question. The Association will not countenance the claims of the cutters, nor does it look with favour upon co-operative buying schemes which are prevalent in the country. On the other hand, the Association mildly renews its fealty to the tripartite agreement promulgated by the National Association of Retail Druggists. A careful resolution was passed promising consideration of the details of the Worcester Enforcement plan, if these were properly set forth and furnished to each member of the Association for their individual consideration and action. Mr. C. Leedom, on behalf of the Philadelphia Association of Retail Druggists, in speaking of the advantages of the Worcester plan, suggested that the Association contribute to a fund, to be known as the Aggressive Defence Fund; and that proprietary goods be sold with a contract agreement that would enable individual proprietors to collect evidence of violation and act as plaintiffs in bringing suits to collect damages for such violations.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

The Council Election.

SIR,—Permit me to thank the members of the Society who have by their votes placed me on the Council. I would also like to express my gratitude for the many congratulatory messages I have received; especially I am grateful to numerous good friends in Scotland.

Yours faithfully,

Blackburn, May 29.

R. LORD GIFFORD.

SIR,—As I read the results of the polling in the recent Council election, it appears to me that the great bulk of the electors—or, at least, of those who took the trouble to vote—have indicated their satisfaction with the recent work of the Council as a whole, but whether they have shown discrimination in re-electing the old members *en bloc* irrespective of individual merits or demerits is not so apparent.

To the 1,039 electors who recorded their votes in my favour I would like to tender my thanks and my high appreciation of this undoubted indication of their confidence. When it is remembered that I did not solicit a single vote, and that no circular appeal was issued by me or on my behalf, the result of my candidature may be considered not altogether unsatisfactory.

Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

HARRY KEMP.

SIR,—I desire to thank the 555 members who so kindly gave me their support at the recent election, and, though not elected, I am pleased to see Mr. Gifford, who holds similar views to myself, returned fifth, since it shows unmistakably that chemists are not disposed to forego their just claims to qualified proprietorship. Next year may see me returned to assist Mr. Gifford and other of the councillors who are prepared to defend this trade interest. It is a matter of astonishment to me, as well as regret, that 2,350 members care so little about what the Society's Council does that they will not even take the trouble to exercise their votes in electing new men to the Council. Such apathy on their part gives very little encouragement to others to interest themselves on their behalf, and especially at such a critical time for pharmacy as the present undoubtedly is it is a matter of the deepest regret. It is to be earnestly hoped that none of these 2,350 members will ever blame the Pharmaceutical Society for any inactivity when they themselves contribute to this by their utmost lack of duty.

Yours faithfully,

77 Westfield Road, Hornsey, N.,
May 29.

C. E. PICKERING.

SIR,—Permit me, through THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, to thank those friends who supported me for election to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. To have been successful on the lines I adopted of not soliciting votes by circulars was beyond my anticipations at this time. Yet I am never reluctant to lead a forlorn hope in so good a cause. Had the two thousands who refrained from voting come to the rescue of the Reform cause the result would have been very different. I trust that the utter hopelessness which has settled on these friends may soon be dispelled by brighter days, and that by their help we shall secure a better policy whereby the Council will conform to the laws enacted for their guidance or stand the consequences of overriding them. This election also points to the need for a territorial system whereby proper representation may be secured, instead of the vote being given in every case for those who retire simply because they do not know the others. In addition to that I account to a considerable extent for non-voting by the facts that when efforts have been made to secure a

reformed Council those who have been elected for this end have soon been lost to sight as "Reformers" and become commonplace "Conformers." Now that the election is past I am glad to see some of the good old friends returned, and hope that they will endeavour to see their duty in what pertains to the whole body of the members' interests, and be guided by principles rather than persons. From reports I read elsewhere I am surprised at the confessions there made. I had no idea that such wonderful anticipations had been counted on by what I was to say at the annual meeting. Nor had I credited myself able to produce this perturbed state of mind. If so much was looked for while I was out of the Council I could hardly imagine what it would be had I been elected. There must be more to inquire about than the literature at "headquarters." One thing is observable: none of my statements has been called in question, and the last of some of them "is not yet."

I remain, &c.,

JAMES MACKENZIE.

Edinburgh, May 27.

Mist. Sennæ Co.

SIR,—I thought someone else would have replied to the difficulty raised by your correspondent "L.R.C.S.I." (C. & D., May 11). Surely he can get his wants supplied by ordering "Mist. Sennæ Co., 1885"—making doubly sure, if necessary, by doubly underlining the year.

Amphill, May 24.

Yours truly,
JAMES BROWN.

A Medical Danger.

SIR,—Chemists may well keep a sharp eye on the Birmingham "Medical Charity" case, for it appears to me very doubtful whether the medical profession will be able to avoid the calamity which overtook us when we all slumbered and slept. I gather from the remarks of Mr. Chamberlain, in the House of Commons, that we are likely to hear more of this case before long; and if this so-called Birmingham "charity" is established, the case will be as disastrous to the medical profession as the London and Provincial Supply Association case was to us. Of course, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain has not said that he is on his brother's side. He is far too cautious for that; but he lays stress on the word "charity." Sir Walter Foster is evidently but a poor champion to pit against the strongest man who has appeared in British politics during the last hundred years. Sir Walter could hardly have done a more foolish thing than reel off the clause dealing with infamous conduct. Does he not see that it will be difficult for the people to understand how a man is guilty of infamous conduct by aiding a "charity" with his best skill for remuneration?

It may be perfectly plain to Sir Walter Foster, as a medical man, that such conduct is infamous; but I confess that it is not plain to me—and if it is not plain to me, whose sympathies are all with medical men in this matter, how does Sir Walter expect it to be plain to the general public, imbued with no such sympathy? In any case, the Judges will have less difficulty in getting over the word "infamous" than they had in getting over Section I. of our Act, if the case comes into the law courts.

If this Birmingham "charity" is established, within ten years every town of any importance will be in possession of its medical "charity," ruled by directors, and paying substantial dividends. The public will be no better or cheaper served, the medical profession will be degraded and enslaved, the scientific spirit will give way to the quack spirit (just as has been the case in pharmacy), and the money will be diverted into the pockets of those who toil not in the universities, and are neither spun nor passed in the examination-rooms. I do not say it is going to be a fight between the wearers of the gowns of science and the manipulators of screws and dynamite; but at present it looks rather that way. If such a fight should take place, victory is more likely to go with screws and dynamite than with science.

Dumfries, May 27.

JAMES REID.

A Call to Arms.

SIR,—The tendency of education in pharmacy is upwards: higher standard of knowledge, higher fees—the natural result, higher salaries. The latter seems the longest in coming, although of the employers of to-day very few are making an advance in their rate of pay. Without this

advance in years to come few will enter the trade, and pharmacy will be left to a select few and a non-select many—the stores. Under such circumstances where will be the need of a Pharmaceutical Society or official body? The guidance will be unnecessary, the conduct of the examinations the only *raison d'être*. One point appears most prominent—the value of qualification; and as we have not, and are not likely to have without pressure, any practical sympathy from employers, it behoves all qualified and unqualified assistants to unite and compel a more satisfactory rate of remuneration. The companies, by reason of the laxity of past generations of chemists, have filched the sop from the mouths of the younger members of the calling. Now that the condition of pharmacy has become critical, it is for those who have the power—the necessary qualified assistant—to force the hand of the grasping employer. If companies of private individuals desire to invest their capital in such sound concerns as pharmacy offers, they must be content to accept a rational rate of interest. We must have no more 20-per-cent. dividends. Another point is the hours of labour—an old sore, neglected and indolent. The hours of labour are not comparable with those of any other calling; the bricklayer and the clerk would scoff at the offer of such hours of labour. Twelve to fifteen hours a day would meet with a powerful refusal. If a business demands long attention—that is, from sunrise to sunrise—let the labour be divided into shifts. If the retort is made that pharmacy will not stand a larger staff, then the profits must be increased. A 10-per-cent. increase on the price of goods and medicines will more than recoup the employer. No man can or will conduct pharmacy or any other business at a loss. There is only one way for the assistant—viz., union, and then pressure. Union—first a compact, solid body, determined; then a manifesto to the trade; a catalogue of minimum salaries to be accepted; refusal to work except under the conditions of this manifesto; in fact, practical working on the trade-union principle in the ranks of pharmacy.

Yours faithfully,
INSTIGATOR.

Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

152/32. *W. L. B.*—There is practically no hope of getting exemption from jury-service in a Pharmacy Bill: that is why it is not attempted. Governments now insist on this subject being dealt with *per se*.

162/59. *Chemist.*—A spirit-dealer's licence for the sale of rectified spirit in quantities of not less than 2 gals. costs 10*l.* 10*s.* a year. A spirit-retailer's licence for the sale of quantities of less than 2 gals. is charged according to the rateable value of the premises. The spirit-dealer's licence can be got from the Excise authorities by application through the local supervisor. The retailer's licence is only granted on a certificate of the local Magistrates applied for at the licensing sessions.

162/65. *R. S.* puts the following question:—"If A, the widow of a chemist, enters into partnership with B, a qualified chemist, is the partnership legal provided B manages the business and A has no active part in it?" The reply is that if A is not a registered chemist and druggist she infringes the Pharmacy Act by so doing. The widow of a registered chemist and druggist may continue the business of her husband so long only as she does so as the administratrix or executrix of the estate, but to enter into partnership must involve the winding-up of the estate.

163/10. *Drugs.*—A wholesale house which gives a chemist and druggist the use of syphons at a charge per month may claim for any loss of syphons it is able to establish against the chemist and druggist. The fact that the latter has not in writing acknowledged the loan does not affect the matter because the intromissions between the parties are sufficient to establish the liability. If the syphons have been lost during transit by rail as returns it would be for

the chemist and druggist to recover the loss from the railway company. The fact that the claim has not been pressed for years in any way, but allowed to run on without any application, is good ground for a defence on the part of the chemist, as he and a smart solicitor may be able to establish that the wholesale house has not used due diligence.

158/30. *Subscriber.*—An unqualified person carrying on business, wholesale and retail, as a druggist, and styling himself such, is liable to prosecution under the Pharmacy Act for illegal use of the title. If he confines himself strictly to the wholesale, proceedings would not be taken.

163/39. *A. B. C.* puts the following:—"A had a prescription for skin-lotion dispensed by B, his chemist. A recommended his friends to go to B and have the prescription dispensed. In course of time A's skin-lotion became somewhat popular amongst his friends. A is now dead. B still dispenses the lotion to A's friends in the ordinary way when asked. (1) Can B, the chemist, who has a copy of the original prescription for skin-lotion, make up and advertise as one of his own proprietary articles A's skin-lotion under the style of B's skin-lotion, &c.? (2) or should B alter the formula or in some way colour the lotion?" [The prescription is not B's property, but was A's, and is now that of his heirs or assigns, if any. In the latter case, the best course to pursue in the matter is to get the authority of the heirs or assigns to put the lotion on the market, otherwise B must use his skill and knowledge to improve upon the article so that it may not be confounded with the original. A trifling alteration, such as that suggested, would for legal purposes suffice.]

165/32. *Ex*, until a few months ago, was a branch-manager for a large drug-company. Originally he signed an agreement not to engage in business as a chemist within two miles of the branch for four years after leaving the company's employ. The original company has now been absorbed by another drug-company, and "Ex" wishes to know if the agreement is still binding, and who could sue if the compact were broken. [It was decided in 1883, in the case of *Jacoby v. Whitmore* (49 L.T.R., 335) that a covenant by an assistant not to set up in competition passes on a sale with the goodwill of the business. In this case, therefore, both the old and new company could sue "Ex" if he set up business in the proscribed radius and within the proscribed time.]

169/36. *Spec.*—As the blood-purifier label does not recommend the mixture for the cure of any ailment, it does not render the preparation liable to stamp-duty.

169/43. *C.*—(1) Residence of an assistant on business-premises makes the whole liable to inhabited-house duty. (2) You should make your income-tax return in the district in which you now reside, and claim exemption as specified in the return. The assessor is wrong in saying that tax for a portion of a year spent in one district is payable on each pound earned. The tax is chargeable upon the whole year's earnings.

167/63. *Trional.*—(1) The Pharmacy Act (Ireland, 1875) has no bearing upon the use of the title "Medical Hall." (2) Although the 1890 Act permits druggists to mix poisons, it does not authorise them to compound medical prescriptions. A recipe for a quinine and iron tonic for retail sale is probably not a medical prescription intended by the Act, for the Pharmaceutical Council (Ireland) generally proves in any legal proceedings for illegal compounding that the prescription has been written by a medical practitioner. Preparation of a quinine and iron tonic is more of the nature of "mixing" than "compounding," but we do not think it would be wise for a druggist to put "Prepared by" on his tonic-labels. It may raise for settlement a question which is tacitly agreed to be better to remain as it is.

164/69. *F. J. K.*—Lime-water made by diluting liquor calcis sacch. with thirteen times its volume of water cannot legally be sold as lime-water. There is little difficulty in keeping a constant supply of lime-water if you have two or more vessels for preparing it always in use, and refilling each bottle as it is emptied. You may use a very large excess of lime so as to do away with repeated first-washings.

167/70. *H. M.*—The certificate granted by the Society of Apothecaries of London to assistants merely entitles such persons to act as assistants to licentiates of the Society of Apothecaries, and only has force in England and Wales. It does not entitle such persons to sell poisons unless they are actually in the employment of a licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries, and if they sell poisons under other conditions in England, Scotland, or Wales they infringe the Pharmacy Act.

165/27. *Omega.*—Limited companies, not being persons, may call themselves dentists.

164/2. *Scotch Subscriber.*—The Secretary of the Local Government Board (Scotland) informs us that "the Board have issued no rule preventing a medical officer [to the poor] from supplying his own medicines to paupers in places where there is a qualified chemist." Nor is there any law to prevent the doctor so acting. This is not the first time we have had to answer a question as to it being the rule, under the Scotch Poor Law, for doctors to prescribe, and not to dispense, medicines. We trust that this authoritative statement will allay all doubt on the subject.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

164/5. *A. P.*—It has now been conclusively demonstrated that preparations of nuxvomica contain a trace of copper, which suffices to account for mixtures containing the tincture and an alcohol becoming bluish-green in colour.

132/12. *C. R.*—**Syrup of Glycerophosphates.**—The original preparation of Dr. Robin is made with syrup of cherries, which is red in colour, but the red coloration is generally imparted by means of cudbear, as in the new B.P.C. syrup. Compare the recipe in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 502, with that of the Formulary. Other syrups than Robin's are sold in France, and some of them are colourless; but Dr. Robin was the introducer of the glycerophosphates into medicine, and his formula is usually followed.

153/59. *L. & F.*—Beyond the fact that mousse de chypre—*Lichen rangiferinus*—is used for making Cyprus powder or French scent-bags, we can give no further information.

162/21. *L. S. S.*—(1) "White turpentine" we take to be pure oil of turpentine. The term is perhaps used to distinguish from discoloured turpentine. (2) "Butter of tin" is a term applied to both anhydrous stannous chloride, SnCl_2 , and the hydrated stannic chloride, $\text{SnCl}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, but more often to the latter chemical.

151/66. *Devonshire.*—**Cheese-making.**—Your queries hardly come under the scope of this column, but we think the trouble of the cheese cracking is due to allowing the rennet to act too long. An hour is the most that should be allowed for coagulation to take place, and the temperature should be as near 80° F. as possible.

162/43. *B.*—(1) You cannot do better for home-study than to use Attfield's "Chemistry," 15s. (Gurney & Jackson). (2) Rouse's "Dictionary of Synonyms," 1s. (Rouse Brothers, 61 Charlotte Street, W.).

135/9. *S. C.*—The French Skin-tonic would be well matched by glycerin and rose-water, whilst the Skin-preservative is an ointment of the nature of ung. sambuci flor.

144/2. *Lindum.*—**Brass-cleaning Paste.**—Make a paste with heavy petroleum oil and kieselsol, perfume with oil of mirbane, and you will have a product like the sample you send.

122/24. *F. W. D.*—We cannot identify the cancer dusting-powder.

143/67. *Novia Scotia.*—The formula for lemonade crystals is given on page 209 of "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

147/23. *H. J. I.*—The sample of "the best Moth-powder in the world" is apparently betanaphthol mixed with a small proportion of powdered sandalwood.

148/32. *B. & S.*—**Tasteless Purging-powder** for a horse, like your sample:—

Powdered croton-seeds	...	...	gr. xl.
Peroxide of iron	...	...	gr. xx.
Powdered linseed	...	...	5j. or less

Mix.

A powder such as above is equal to a 5-dr. aloes-ball.

129/38. *Veterinary.*—There is nothing distinctive about the packet of Horse-powder. It is more of the nature of an appetising spice. The following is an equivalent powder:—

Powd. fenugreek	...	...	½ lb.
Powd. anise	...	...	4 oz.
Powd. liquorice	...	...	½ lb.
Common salt	...	...	½ lb.
Powd. linseed	...	...	1 lb.

A 2-oz. packet in bran-mash or corn three times a week.

143/74. *J. M.*—**Rupture-cure.**—This we find to be of an astringent character, and represented by a tincture of hamamelis weaker than the B.P. strength. It also contains oil of peppermint—for the purpose, probably, of mystifying the user. There is no evidence that such an application is of any use as a cure for rupture.

126/6. *F. & Co.*—**Waterproof Harness-black.**—The base of this is carnauba wax, and the intense black is due to the use of aniline-black as well as ivory-black. We have not worked out an exact formula, but a few experiments on the above lines will soon yield practical results.

18/5. *A. L. T.*—**Starch-glazing Jelly.**—Dissolve curd-soap (1) in a mixture of water (5) and glycerin (1). The product should not be stirred or it will be opaque instead of transparent like your sample.

162/48. *Colonial.*—(1) **Skin-paste, non-greasy.**—The following formula gives an ointment nearly resembling your sample:—

Curd-soap	...	...	...	3j.
Glycerin	...	...	...	3ss.
Distilled water	...	...	...	3iv.

Melt together in a water-bath, transfer to a mortar, and when nearly cold rub in—

Solution of hamamelis	...	...	3j.
Oil of lavender	...	...	℥viiss.
Oil of rose geranium	...	...	℥viiss.

(2) **Carbolic Jelly** is made by melting ac. carbolic. xtal, and pouring into an equal quantity of collodion.

135/58 (*Leamington*), 150/43 (*A. G.*)—**Powder for Alcoholism.**—The chief ingredient of this is pulv. ipecacuanhæ, but we have not been able to identify the diluent. A powder composed of equal parts of potass. sulphat. and pulv. ipecacuanhæ would doubtless answer the same purpose as the samples sent.

142/24. *N. V. S.*—**Metal-polish.**—This is similar to several we have examined lately—a mixture of infusorial earth, oleic acid, and benzolin. Apparently the resulting cream answers the purpose very well, but care should be taken to use only earth in the finest powder.

158/69. *Safety.*—Your best plan in regard to the infants' preservative and cough-mixture is to omit the morphine hydrochloride and opium preparations altogether. There will be little loss from their omission, but there is nothing to exactly replace them.

162/65. *R. S.*—There are few things better than Sanitas for sweetening the air of a sick-room when ventilation is impossible and permanganate solutions are ineffective. Formaldehyde in such a form as P. D. & Co.'s Eufornol is also excellent, especially in counteracting foetid odours.

157/11. *W. F. W.* has a fox terrier which has Canker in the Ear. He has tried the usual remedies, which do good, but it comes on again. The dog is five years old, and a good bred dog. What is the cure? [There is no permanent

and absolute cure for canker of the ear in dogs. There is a dry canker, which causes them to be irritable and shake the head, and strike the base of the ear with the hind foot, which is best treated with glycerin. iodi. Another form of canker, due to the presence of symbiotes, can only be cured by persistent dressings, which will destroy them without injury to the meatus of the dog. If you alternate the above with oleate of mercury and ol. staphisagrie you will in time eradicate parasites. These, in sunny weather, stray upon the tympanum, and provoke nervous excitement, simulating epilepsy. There is, too, an eczema of the membrane, which is best treated by warm instillations of liq. plumbi, and subsequently by lavish employment of ung. zinci ox. c. minim x. of acid carbolici ad unciam. Otorrhœa, with an offensive discharge, is included in the popular term "canker." This form most readily yields to antiseptic dressings, as chinosol in glycerin, but an essential part of the treatment consists in carefully cleaning out the meatus auditorius. Small quantities of cotton-wool on a blunt bone penholder answer this purpose well, following the convolutions of the ear by a cork-screw movement of the wrist.]

157/57. *J. D.*—Major Diploma.—Refer to the *C. & D.*, October 20, 1900, page 670, for description of the diploma of the Pharmaceutical Society. Galen was born at Pergamos, in Asia Minor.

159/37. *H. & Co*—Health-saline.—A simple formula for this was given in the *C. & D.*, May 11, 1901, page 774. Here is another from "Pharmaceutical Formulas":—

Sodii bicarb. ...	...	...	...	3ij.
Ac. tartaric. ...	...	...	...	3iss.
Pot. tart. acid. ...	...	...	...	3iss.
Sodii sulph. exsicc. ...	...	...	...	3j.
Sacch. alb. ...	...	...	...	3vj.

M.

160/46. *D. H.*—Price of Camphor-water.—The Liverpool list prices this at 1d. per oz., but we should think 3s. a fair price for a gallon.

161/53. *Auberon*.—Mountant.—The sample you send is a dextrin one, and in the manufacture of it you will need to remember that some ways of making dextrin mountants are the subject of patents. A summary of these is given in the *C. & D.*, February 23, 1901, page 333. The following yields a good product:—

Dextrin ...	...	...	...	lb. iij.
Borax ...	...	...	...	3vj.
Glucose ...	...	...	...	3v.
Water ...	...	...	...	3xlij.

Dissolve the borax in the water, mix well with the dextrin and glucose, and heat till solution takes place. Set aside for three or six months to ripen.

164/11 (*Dark-room*), 163/68 (*Pyro*).—(1) Charges for Use of Dark-room.—For changing plates no charge is made when the changer is a customer. For the use of the room for developing the rate is 1s. an hour. The charge for developing customers' quarter-plates is 2s. 6d. a dozen, and for printing, toning, and fixing 2s. to 3s. a dozen. (2) For "Pyro" only.—We have given a formula this year for combined bath as recently as May 9, page 422, and there were two recipes for the same bath in the last volume.

164/1. *F. J. H.* (1) Preserving Eggs.—"Water-glass" is diluted to the consistence of thin syrup and poured over the eggs packed in an earthenware vessel. After a day the "water-glass" solution is poured out, and the eggs left as they are to dry. Sometimes, when the coating is dry, fine sawdust is added to fill up the space between the eggs. (2) Sulphate of copper for Killing Weeds would need to be a very strong solution; acid sulphate of potassium is the best thing of its kind to use.

163/72. *L. L. S.*—Many thanks for the cutting. We are always pleased to note that some subscribers are as willing to assist us as we them.

123/25. *Quarry*.—We do not know that we can help you much in the matter of a stone-filling, especially after the long and interesting series of experiments you have conducted, but you seem to be on the right lines with a com-

pound of resin, wax, and powdered stone. If the colour of the resin is really the only objection, a more suitable sample might be obtained by applying to such a firm as Messrs. Watts & Co., 72 to 75 Fenchurch Street, E.C.

124/74. *J. M.*—Tonic Elixir to suit your label:—

Syr. ferri phosph. c. quin. et strychn.	3ij.
Aq. chlorof. ad	...
	3vj.

Adult dose: One tablespoonful in a wineglass of water two or three times a day after meals.

149/22. *Educational*.—The Medical Preliminary Examination of the College of Preceptors is not the second-class certificate examination. The latter was struck off the list some time ago. The special medical examination held by the College is now equal to the first-class, but, of course, contains only the subjects required by the General Medical Council. It would have saved you time to have addressed the College of Preceptors direct.

130/3. *G. D.*—Diarrhœa-powder for Calves, as your sample:—

Powdered resin ...	...	...	4 oz.
Powdered alum ...	...	...	2 oz.
Powdered ginger ...	...	...	1 oz.
Bicarbonate of soda...	...	...	1 oz.

The dose is 1 oz. in a little gruel two or three times a day.

140/65. *Ajax*.—Dusting-powder.—The solubility of finely powdered boric acid gives it great superiority over carthy or starchy ingredients as a dusting-powder.

149/69. *Hippo*.—(1) The following customary Charges for Developing Plates and printing therefrom will be a guide to you in fixing your prices:—

	Developing	Printing		
	Plates or Films	P.O.P.	Platinum	Bromide
Quarter-plate	3s. 0d. doz.	3s. 0d. doz.	3s. 6d. doz.	3s. 6d. doz.
Half-plate	4s. 0d. doz.	4s. 6d. doz.	6s. 0d. doz.	5s. 0d. doz.
Whole-plate	6s. 6d. doz.	7s. 6d. doz.	10s. 6d. doz.	8s. 0d. doz.
10 by 12 in.	9s. 0d. doz.	14s. 0d. doz.	22s. 0d. doz.	15s. 0d. doz.

(2) Powder Weed-killer:—

Arsenic ...	...	...	...	1 lb.
Soda-ash ...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Indigo...	...	...	...	½ oz.

Mix.

Two ounces of the powder is dissolved in a quart of water by boiling, and then diluted to a gallon for use.

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

- 169/12. Makers of solid stencil-ink.
 169/42. Makers of urinary test-cases.
 162/56. Address of Will's Hygeia salts.
 2/2. Manufacturers of "Oowand" toilet and shaving soap.
 170/63. Who are the makers of "Ebrienne" drunkards' cure?
 169/42. Makers of imitation ivory-topped corks for small pill-tubes.
 168/22. Address of the Soapmakers' and Chemists' Supply Company, of London.
 161/18. Maker of barrel-shaped tinted mineral-water tumblers with handle.
 166/4. - London address of Andrew Jergens & Co., Cincinnati, proprietors of blush-rose soap.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: May 30.

BUSINESS this week has been interrupted by the Whitsuntide holidays, consequently there is little of interest to report. Quinine was officially advanced $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per oz. on Tuesday, and this has tended to firmer rates in the second-hand market, although the business done is naturally small. German camphor refiners have also advanced their quotations $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. True almond oil is $2d.$ cheaper. Reports are current that new oil of neroli will be scarce this year, owing to the failure of the orange-flower crop, which is now in process of gathering in the South of France. No public sales of spices or shellac have been held this week. The following are the principal changes since our last report:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Camphor (Germ) Oil, linseed Oil, turpentine Quinine	Galls (Pers.)	Menthol Oil, rape Opium (Pers.) Tragacanth	Oil, almond Thymol

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from May 23 to 29 (both inclusive):—Aloes (@ Mossel Bay) 21; arsenic (@ Oporto), 154; benzoin (@ Marseilles, 5 cs.; cardamoms, 109; castor oil (Ital.) 20 cs. (@ Hamburg) 55 cs., (@ Marseilles) 91; chamomiles, 3; cinchona (@ Ceylon), 23; cocaine, crude (@ Callao), 14 cs.; drugs, (@ Cartagena) 19 pkgs., (@ St. Kitts) 1 cs., (@ Cape Town) 52 cs.; ganja (@ Calcutta), 28 cs.; ginger (W.C.A.) 268 bgs., (Jamaica) 1,223 pkgs., (@ N.Y.) 169 brls., (@ Bombay) 77 cs., 39 bgs.; gum arabic (@ Alexandria), 337; honey, (Jam.) 260 cs., 276 pkgs., (@ New York) 51; insect-powder (@ Trieste) 75 bols.; juniper-berries, 36 bls.; lime-juice (Jam), 14 puns.; lycodium, 10 cs.; opium (@ Calcutta), 60 chts.; orris (Ital.), 28; peppermint oil (@ Hamburg), 52 cs.; potash chlorate (@ Sweden), 125; quinine (@ Amsterdam), 5 cs.; sarsaparilla (@ Jamaica), 4; senna (Tiny), 82; tamarinds (@ Antigua) 56, (@ Kingston) 23 kgs.; turmeric, (@ Calcutta) 40, (@ Bombay) 285; vanilla, 1 case; wax, bees' (@ Natal) 17, (@ Calcutta) 47, (Jam.) 56, (Chil.) 16.

The Batavia Quinine-market.

Although the results of the quinine-auctions in Java have been very satisfactory, according to the *Soerabaya Handelsblad*, the object in view has only been partially realised, as a definite ratio between the price of bark and that of quinine (which will be the only means of preventing excessive fluctuations in the bark-quotations) has not yet been reached. For this reason endeavours are now being made to establish new markets for cinchona-auctions, in the first place at Batavia.

The Bandonj factory is by no means able to work up the whole of the bark produced in Java; for this purpose at least two, probably three, other factories would be required, and although the erection of new quinine works is under consideration, a long time is certain to elapse before this project will be realised. Meanwhile, the planters, being compelled to send the bulk of their production to London and Amsterdam, are not able to obtain the most favourable prices. The average gross proceeds of the Batavia auctions in 1900 were 23.21f. per kilo., equal to an Amsterdam unit of 9.25c.; but the average unit at Amsterdam in that year was 10.3c., or 1c. higher. In 1901 the conditions so far have been more favourable, probably owing to the fact that the auctions are now held six days after those at Amsterdam. The average prices obtained at the first two auctions at Batavia were 8.45c. and 9.11c., against 7.3c. and 8.15c. at Amsterdam. The fact is that the larger the quantity of quinine sold at the Batavia auctions, the more the values of quinine and bark will agree.

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]

Owing to the intervention of the holidays the past week has been a very quiet one in the heavy-chemical market, and there is nothing of special note or importance to be recorded. The general position, both as regards demand and values, remains practically unchanged from recent reports.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is rather quiet, but values are well maintained at following figures:—Beckton, 11l. per ton; Beckton terms, 10l. 12s. 6d.; London, 10l. 17s. 6d.; Leith, 10l. 15s. to 10l. 17s. 6d.; and Hull, 10l. 12s. 6d.

BARIUM PRODUCTS maintain a very firm tone, owing to the continued scarcity of the mineral carbonate of barytes. Blanc fixe, pure precipitated sulphate of barium in paste form, 7l. 10s. to 8l. per ton, free on rails in usual casks. Chloride of barium, best ordinary refined crystals, in good demand and very firm at 7l. to 7l. 10s. per ton free on rails in bags, and 7l. 5s. to 7l. 15s. per ton in ordinary casks. Sulphide of barium, crude calcined, in casks, 5l. 10s. to 6l. per ton. Hydrate of baryta, purest crystals, in steady request, at 14l. to 14l. 10s. per ton in 6 and 7 cwt casks ex stock. Nitrate of baryta, crystals and powdered, 16l. 10s. to 17l. 10s. per ton free on rails in original casks. Sulphate of barytes, mineral ground, moving well at from 40s. to 100s. per ton, according to quality, quantity, and package.

BORAX and BORACIC ACID remain unchanged since the reduction in March, and are only in quiet demand. Borax crystals, 16s. per cwt., and powdered, 17s. per cwt.; boracic acid, 25s. and 27s. per cwt. respectively, for crystals and powdered.

COAL-TAR PRODUCTS are in somewhat brisker demand. Benzols, which for some time have been on the decline, are now a shade firmer again, 90 per cent., 9½d. to 10d., and 50 per cent., 8½d. to 9d. Carbolic acids quiet. Crude, 60 per cent., 2s. 5d. per gallon, and 75 per cent., 2s. 10½d. Crystals, 39°–40° C., 9d., and 34°–35° C., 8½d. Aniline oil, 4½d. to 4½d. per lb., and aniline salts, 4½d. to 4½d. per lb. Anthracene, "A" grade, 3d., and "B" grade, 2d. Toluol, 1s. to 1s. 1d., and pure, 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d. Pyridin, 6s. 7d. to 6s. 8d. Naphthas: Crude, 30 per cent., 5d.; solvent naphtha, 90 per cent., 1s. to 1s. 1d., and 95 per cent., 1s. 2d. Creosote, 1½d. to 2d. Solvent-wood naphtha, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 9d., and miscible, 3s. 5d. to 3s. 6d.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, May 29.

CASTOR OIL.—Notwithstanding the prospect of an early arrival of good seconds Calcutta this grade is still selling at 4½d. per lb., as the stocks are reduced to almost *nil*, and further arrivals will come to a market almost absolutely bare. First-pressure French has improved its position in store, 3½d. to 3¾d. being the price now asked by holders, as quay parcels have all been cleared off. Second-pressure French is quoted sparingly at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb.

QUILLAIMA.—Forty-four bales just arrived were sold from the quay at 13l. per ton, but holders of parcels in store are very firm, at 13l. 5s. to 13l. 10s. per ton.

CHILLIES (SIERRA LEONE).—The arrivals this year so far amount to only 78 packages. A few years ago the arrivals were 4,000 to 5,000 bags in the season. Fine bright red are in limited supply, and held for 52s. 6d. to 55s. per cwt.

TURPENTINE OIL is arriving, and 27s. 6d. to 28s. per cwt. is asked by importers.

ACACIA SORTS.—Further sales are reported at 57s. per cwt. Notwithstanding the arrivals holders are very firm in their views.

COPAIBA.—A further parcel of 11 barrels Maranham has arrived, and the lot will be offered at auction shortly.

AFRICAN GINGER.—Business continues to be done at 32s. to 32s. 6d. per cwt.

HONEY has been practically lifeless during the holidays, and no quotable change has taken place in values.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, May 28.

A holiday-tone prevails on this market, and very little is doing in drugs just now.

AGAR-AGAR is dull and lower, at 360m. per 100 kilos.

BALSAM PERU is unchanged, at 11½m. per kilo.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) has been raised to 475m. per 100 kilos. by the refiners; second-hand holders now quote 465m.

COCA-LEAVES are firm, at 300m. to 350m. per 100 kilos.

COCAINE is unchanged, at 700m. per kilo.

ERGOT is tending firmer, with a fair demand at 470m. per 100 kilos.

IPCACUANHA.—Rio is scarce, and firmly held at 29½m. per kilo. Cartagena is quiet, at 14m. per kilo.

JALAP is getting scarce and firmer, at 115m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium is very quiet, at 417½m. per 100 kilos.

QUININE is steady, at 46m. per kilo. Makers have raised their prices to 47m.

MENTHOL is dull of sale, at 25½m. per kilo.

JAPAN WAX is tending firmer, holders asking 62½m. per 100 kilos to-day.

SENEGA is dull and lower, at 315m. per 100 kilos.

SUGAR-OF-MILK is quiet, at 85m. per 100 kilos.

SANTONIN is unchanged, at 35m. per kilo.

LINSEED OIL is lower, but closes firmer to-day.

CASTOR OIL.—Without demand. First-pressing in barrels is worth 60m. per 100 kilos.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Firm, at 65m. per barrel for non-congealing oil.

STAR-ANISE OIL is quiet, at 12½m. per kilo.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—HGH is firm, at 6½m. per lb., and Japanese quiet, at 6½m. per kilo.

American Drug Market.

New York, May 21, 1901

The market is tame and uninteresting, with transactions almost wholly confined to supplying necessary wants.

COPAIBA continues in good demand, and full quotations of 38c. to 40c. per lb. are obtainable for prime Central American. Pará is steady at 48c. to 50c.

BALSAM TOLU is firm at 27½c. to 29c. per lb.

BUCHU-LEAVES are quiet on the spot and steady at 28c. to 30c. per lb. for short. Long leaves have sold up to 65c. for small parcels.

COCA-LEAVES are quiet, but the market has an upward trend in sympathy with primary markets. Dealers are not offering freely, and quotations for Huanoco-leaves are higher at 34c. to 36c. Truxillo are firm at 25c.

CUBEBS are quiet at 11½c. to 13c. per lb.

ERGOT is higher in sympathy with the Hamburg market. Russian has advanced to 53c., and the tendency is upward. Spanish is firm at 56c. per lb.

NUX VOMICA has sold freely at 2c. to 2½c. per lb., and the market has a firmer tone.

OIL OF PEPPERMINT.—Quotations are well maintained at \$1.20 to \$1.30 per lb., with very little obtainable at the inside figure.

OPIMUM is dull and quotations are nominal at \$3.20 per lb.

QUININE continues firm but unchanged. Considerable quantities of German has changed hands at 32c., and very little is offered below this figure. Java is obtainable at 30½c. to 31c. per lb.

SENEGA.—Supplies have been offered from the north-west at 28c., and the spot market has dropped to 30c. in quantity.

Japanese Drug-market.

Yokohama, May 2.

Trade in general is in a bad condition, and money is very scarce, which facts are chiefly due to excess of imports over exports. Several banks are in a very distressed financial way, some of them having suspended payment. Failures of a few big houses are also announced. Our drug-trade is also passing through bad times, and a few small drug-merchants in Tokyo have failed; but in Yokohama there have been no failures so far.

In export articles, dry ginger has advanced to 13.50 yen, at which figure market is very firm, owing to scarcity. There is not much stock in Yokohama or the producing-districts. Sowing is now in progress, and new crop will not be available until autumn. Menthol is rather lower, at 7 yen per catty, with a still lower tendency. This is due to scarcity of money on the part of holders coupled with absence of important transactions. Oil of peppermint is also lower, with sellers at 1.75 yen per catty, with no large transactions. Refined camphor is firmly held at the unchanged rates of 1.05 yen per lb. for 1-oz. tablets and 1 yen for block. Japanese insect-powder of new crop is quoted 50 sen per lb., but, supply being limited so far, it is consumed entirely at home. Tannic acid (technical) is lower, at 90 sen to 87½ sen per lb., on account of slow sale. Galls are quiet at unchanged prices. Japanese iodine is unchanged, but if anything the tendency is lower, owing, no doubt, to the drop in "syndicate" prices. But prices have not been reduced in proportion to those of the European Convention as it was originally far cheaper than their "artificial price." A fair home demand is reported at the present quotations of 3.45 yen for 95 per-cent. crude, 3.50 yen for potassium iodide, 5.20 yen for resublimed iodine, and 5.60 yen for iodoform—all per lb. Copper sulphate is lower, at 14.50 yen per case of 60 kilos. each; washing-soda is quoted 1.70 yen per 100 lbs.; and bleaching-powder is firm, at 5.90 yen per case for 100-case lots.

In import articles there have been a good many alterations in prices since my last report, and changes generally are in favour of buyers. Orders from the interior are under the average, due to scarcity of money. Tartaric acid is selling well at 62 sen per lb. in 112-lb. kegs; citric acid is also firm, at 80 sen per lb., but demand is very limited this year owing to the high

price. Salicylic acid is selling briskly, at 1 yen to 90 sen per lb., according to brand. Carbolic acid is quiet, at 45 sen per lb. in drums, demand not being brisk. The Government purchased 15,000 kilos. last month, and again declared a tender for the same quantity, which will be decided early in June. Cocaine has been considerably advanced; at present holders want 10.50 yen per oz., with very few sellers. Condurango is very cheap owing to arrivals, and holders now quote 38 sen per lb., with a still lower tendency; more than 150 bales are on the way. Bismuth subnitrate is cheap, at 2.75 yen per lb. for 1,000-lb. lots, with buyers at 2.70 yen, which figure will buy shortly, as the stock is estimated at not less than 30,000 lbs. Quinine is quiet, at 68 sen per oz. for German sulphate, and 66 sen for Java; hydrochloride is quoted 93 sen per oz. Transactions are from hand to mouth, and no speculative business is in progress. Santonin is firmly held, at 8.75 yen to 9.25 yen per lb. Saffron is quiet, at 19 yen per catty. Sugar of milk is quoted at 25 yen per cwt., with no buyers. Ipecacuanha is slow of sale, at 8.06 yen per lb. for Rio.

In heavy chemicals potash chlorate is dull on account of the depressed condition of the match-making industry, and there are sellers at 17 yen per cwt. for 5-ton lots. Alkali 58°, "Crescent" brand, is firm, at 4.60 yen to 4.70 yen per picul, owing to rather short supply. Bicarbonate of soda is dull, at 3.80 yen per cwt. for "Crescent," while for American in bags 3.60 yen is wanted. Caustic soda (60-62 per cent.) is still lifeless, but it may soon become harder, as the Government will buy 600 drums, the tender for which will be opened on June 8; the present price is 7 yen to 7.15 yen per picul, according to quantity.

Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, May 30, 10.10 A.M.:—There have been sales of 120 cases of opium for American consignment. The price is now 8s. 5d. per lb., f.o.b., and the market is firm.

* * * *

HAMBURG, May 30, 2.10 P.M.:—Refined camphor in second-hands on this market is now quoted at 460m. per 100 kilos. Ergot is selling at 465m. per 100 kilos. For lycopodium there is considerably more inquiry.

* * * *

BERGEN, May 30, 12.50 P.M.:—Reports of the Finmarken cod-fishing are bad. The market for oil is firmer here at 59s., f.o.b., per barrel for refined oil. The catch up to date is 35,546,000 fish, as against 30,540,000 at a corresponding period last year. This is estimated to yield 29,721 barrels of crude oil, as against 24,881 barrels this time last year.

* * * *

NEW YORK, May 30, 3.42 P.M.:—The market here is quiet. German quinine has been advanced to 34c per oz. Cubebs are higher, 14c. per lb. now being wanted. Ergot is firmer, at 56c. per lb. for Russian. Both Truxillo and Huanoco coca-leaves are strong, and firmly held at 34c. per lb. Short buchu-leaves are firm at 30c., and long at 70c. per lb. Menthol is easier, at \$3.80 per lb.

London Markets.

ALBUMEN.—Although 2,825 cwt. of albumen were exported from Hankow during 1900 against 1,785 cwt. in 1899, the trade is in such an unprofitable state says the British Consul, that one large firm has ceased working and the others probably continue only because they prefer not to let their machinery stand idle. The Chinese have run up the price of eggs, and the home markets have full stocks at lower prices than albumen can now be supplied at. The foreign firms talked of combining, but the project fell through.

BIRD-LIME.—For 20 cases of good Japanese 10d. per lb. was wanted in auction last week.

CAMPHOR.—The German refiners have advanced their quotations ¼d. per lb., and now quote 2s. 2d. for ton lots. In second hands there are sellers at 2s. 2d. spot. The cause of the advance is said to be the depletion of stocks in second hands and the high figure quoted for crude. There are sellers of Japanese crude at 166s. per cwt., c.i.f.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Tops are still obtainable at 2s. per lb. We notice an arrival of 28 cases ganja per *City of Venice* from Calcutta, probably destined for re-export.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—For new bark on the spot 25s. per cwt. has been paid for a fair quantity.

CINCHONA.—The Java shipments during May were 730,000 Amsterdam lbs.

CIVET.—The exports from Djiboutil (French East Africa) during 1900 were valued at 3,000*l*.

CLOVES.—Quiet, but firm, with transactions for June-August delivery at 4*d*. per lb. for Zanzibar, and sellers for August-October at 4*d*.

COCOA-BUTTER.—The auction to be held on June 4 will consist of 70 tons Van Houten's, 5 tons Helm, 11 tons De Jong, and 5 tons Mignon; while on the same date at London 35 tons Cadbury will be offered in auction.

CUBEBES.—The exports from Singapore to Great Britain from January 1 to April 15, 1901, were 101 piculs.

CUTTLEFISH-BONE was lower in auction, 3½*d*. per lb, being paid for good bold partly broken bone from Bombay.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—The exports from Singapore from January 1 to April 15 were 19 piculs to Great Britain. Since the auction last week a case or two has been sold.

ERGOT.—Cif. quotations are irregular, varying from 2*s*. 1½*d*. to 2*s*. 4*d*. per lb. for Russian, according to holder. On the spot small sales are reported at 2*s*. 4*d*. The Hamburg market is being talked up, and reports from there intimate that stocks have been very much reduced owing to important orders from America.

GALLS.—Persian blue are firmer, business having been done at 50*s*. to 52*s*. 6*d*. per cwt., and the chief holders are asking 55*s*. and over. Greens have also been placed at 50*s*., but whites are neglected.

GOLDEN SEAL.—There has been a fair demand this week several small parcels changing hands at 2*s*. 2*d*. per lb. net.

GUM ARABIC.—Business has been done in unworked Persian so-called insoluble sorts at 15*s*. 6*d*. to 17*s*. for reddish blocky up to 18*s*. 6*d*. for fairly free pale, and selected at 23*s*. A Trieste consular report for 1900 states that the supply of Kordofan gum arabic was much restricted during the year. The price ran to about 200 krone per 100 kilos. (or about 9*d*. per lb.). The Senegal crop was also small. Indian gums were also scarce on account of local causes, such as famine and plague.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—A report from Trieste, dated May 15, states that the season is now closing, and, in consequence, the choice is becoming very restricted, especially as regards the better qualities. Also open flowers are in limited supply, and owners refuse to accept anything below 49*s*. per cwt., c. and f. Now and then it is possible to find small lots a little below this price, but the quality is not always strictly prime. The new crop will probably come in about a fortnight later than usual, and the first supplies may be expected towards the middle of June. From many districts reports have come in that the plants have suffered from the severe and unusual colds of the last winter, and it is therefore anticipated that the yield will be below the average. It cannot yet be said with certainty whether this will have any stimulating effect upon prices, but it is not improbable.

IODIDES.—In view of the present unsettled position of iodine, buyers have been holding off purchases for forward delivery for some time, confining themselves to actual requirements. It is quite anticipated that a further reduction in iodine is inevitable.

JALAP.—Quiet. A parcel of 28 bags, from Vera Cruz, *via* Liverpool, will probably be offered next week.

KOLA.—The imports of kola into the colony of Lagos during 1899 amounted in value to 26,784*l*. against 23,052*l*. in 1898.

LYCOPodium is quoted 1*s*. 11*d*. per lb., c.i.f., for double-sifted in 10-case lots.

MENTHOL.—The forced sale in auction last week was an exceptional one, and referred to a parcel in dispute; 12*s*. 6*d*. per lb., spot, is mentioned as the quotation for Kobayashi, and 12*s*. 3*d*. for prime white. To arrive Kobayashi is quoted 11*s*. to 11*s*. 6*d*. per lb., c.i.f.

A report from Hamburg, dated May 25, states that, in view of the uncertain situation and the recent rapid fall in prices, principally owing to the low offers from Japan, quotations for prime white crystals have been reduced to 11*s*. 3*d*. for short delivery, and to 11*s*. for May-June shipment.

MUSK.—The exports from Hankow during 1900 amounted to 39,424 oz. (78,362*l*.), against 55,552 oz. (113,664*l*.) in 1899.

OIL, ALMOND.—English has been reduced 2*d*. per lb., sweet now being quoted 1*s*. 7*d*., and pallid 1*s*. 9*d*. per lb.

OIL, ANISE STAR.—Slow of sale, at 5*s*. 6*d*. per lb., spot—possibly 5*s*. 5*d*.

OIL, BERGAMOT.—Lower prices have prevailed of late, oil containing 35 per cent. linalool ester being quoted by one importer at 8*s*. 6*d*. per lb., c.i.f., while another quotation is 9*s*. To arrive, 8*s*. 3*d*., c.i.f., is quoted.

OIL, CASSIA.—Quiet, with few sales; 80 to 85 per cent. is quoted 3*s*. 2*d*. to 3*s*. 5*d*. per lb., c.i.f.; 75 to 80 per cent., 2*s*. 10½*d*.; 70 to 75 per cent., 2*s*. 9*d*. per lb.

OIL, CINNAMON.—For genuine bark oil of B.P. quality business is reported at 33*s*. per lb.

OIL, CITRONELLA.—Business has been done in drums at 9½*d*. per lb., c.i.f., for May-August delivery.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—From Bergen, under date of May 25, our correspondent writes that the stormy weather and want of bait has caused frequent interruptions to the Finmarken fishing. The market is quiet but firm, at 58*s*. per barrel, f.o.b., for non-congealing cod-liver oil. The exports from Bergen amount to 4,391½ barrels, against 3,372 barrels at the same time last year. The London market is quiet, one agent quoting 60*s*. c.i.f., and reports a small spot business at 61*s*.

OIL, LEMON.—There has been a good demand this week, with business at from 3*s*. 8*d*. to 3*s*. 9*d*. per lb., c.i.f.

OIL, LINSEED is very strong and dearer, pipes on the spot being now quoted at 33*s*. 9*d*. landed terms, and barrels 34*s*.

OIL, NEROLI.—For genuine quality 7*s*. 6*d*., per oz., spot, is an importer's quotation.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—American HGH is in good demand, at from 6*s*. 3*d*. to 6*s*. 6*d*. per lb., spot. Advices from New York continue to intimate that decidedly higher prices may be expected, as the acreage planted will be small this year. For J.B.H. brand 4*s*. 6*d*. has been refused this week, and for Japanese dementholised 3*s*. 6*d*. spot is quoted, and 3*s*. 2*d*. c.i.f.

OIL, TURPENTINE is dearer, American closing firm at 27*s*. 1½*d*. per cwt spot.

PEPPER is dull of sale, with spot sellers of Singapore black at 6½*d*. per lb, on the spot, and July-September delivery at 6½*d*.

QUININE.—A dilatory advance of ¼*d*. per oz. was announced by German makers on Tuesday, which brings the "official" quotation to 1*s*. 5*d*. per oz., at which figure makers had done business for some time previously. This advance is considered quite inadequate by speculators, who think it ought to have at least been 1½*d*. to bring the article to the parity of bark. It is understood that they are sellers to consumers only. This slight movement has, in consequence, given a firmer feeling to the second-hand market; but only a small business has been done (owing to the holidays and the slight advance), including August delivery at from 1*s*. 4½*d*. to 1*s*. 4¾*d*., and October at 1*s*. 4¾*d*. to 1*s*. 5*d*. To-day 20,000 ozs. have been sold for August at 1*s*. 4¾*d*., with buyers of October at 1*s*. 5*d*. Howards make no change in their quotation for sulphate, but advance their salts in conjunction with other makers.

In reference to the auctions of Java quinine in Batavia, the *New York Commercial* under date of May 15 reports that a rumour is current that there will be no further sales, but why they are to be abandoned, as alleged, is not stated.

SAFFRON.—Steady, but unchanged, at 26*s*. per lb. net for guaranteed B.P. quality.

SENEGAL.—A fair quantity has been placed at 1*s*. 6*d*. to 1*s*. 6½*d*. per lb. net.

SHELLAC.—In steady demand, with spot sales of fair second orange TN at 58*s*. per cwt. For June delivery business has been done in TN at 61*s*., July 61*s*. 6*d*., and August 61*s*. 6*d*., with sellers of October at 63*s*. 6*d*. and January 64*s*. per cwt.

STAVESACRE.—It is said that practically nothing has been shown this year, and there will, therefore, be no crop. From Trieste 22*s*. 6*d*. per cwt. gross for net, c. and f., is quoted.

SUGAR OF MILK.—Guaranteed B.P. powder in cases of 1 cwt. net is quoted from Hamburg at 45s., c.i.f., and less for contracts.

THYMOL is still falling; 9s. 6d. per lb., net, delivered with "falling clause," being quoted for arrival.

TRAGACANTH.—In the lower grades of Persian gum, fair sales have been made at easier prices, and sellers generally are anxious to realise. Only retail quantities of other grades have been placed.

VANILLIN.—Continental make in 100-oz. lots is quoted 1s. 8d. per cz.

Produce Notes.

American Peppermint-oil Prospects.

Mr. F. M. Rudd, of Bronson, Michigan, U.S.A., reports, under date of May 15:—"Planting of peppermint-roots has now been completed, and from the best information to be obtained we estimate the acreage will not exceed that of last year, which produced the smallest crop of oil of any season in the past six years. Peppermint oil is in an exceedingly strong position, as, indeed, it has been for the past ten months. Old stocks are picked up, and with the next crop an assuredly small one, there can be only one direction to the market. Prices, we believe, will soon move up to the level of former averages."

A Proposed Otto-of-Rose Combination.

A meeting of otto-of-rose producers from the districts of Karlovo, Kezanlik, Brezovo, and Panagurishte was recently held in Karlovo to consider the question of a combination of the essential-oil industry in Bulgaria. After discussion it was resolved that a committee, consisting of eight members, be appointed to thoroughly study the question and the means of forming a combination; also to draw up a series of rules, and to issue an appeal to all producers to ascertain what support such an association would receive. The appeal has already been issued, and the further fate of the project will depend on the answers received by the Chairman of the committee, Mr. E. Netschew, of Karlovo.

Copaiba, Jaborandi, and Carnauba-wax.

The shipments of copaiba from Maranhão, Brazil, during 1899 (according to a British consular report), were 13,685 litres to the United Kingdom, 480 litres to the United States, and 142 litres to Rio. The exports of jaborandi-leaves and carnauba-wax are included with "other products." There are two varieties of jaborandi grown in the State of Maranhão, one of which has longer leaves than the other. The shorter leaves yield the largest percentage of pilocarpine. The carnauba palm (*Copernicia cerifera*) is also fairly common in some parts of the State. It yields a wax which is used locally for making candles, and is also exported abroad, where the demand is said to be increasing. The wax is obtained by spreading the leaves of the palm in the sun, and then shaking them, when flakes of a waxy substance scale off. The flakes are then collected and boiled with water. A wax very like stearine in appearance is thus obtained. It has a very high melting-point.

Ceylon's Foreign Trade in 1900.

According to the *Ceylon Observer*, the export-trade of 1900, compared with 1899, must be recorded as not altogether satisfactory.

Cardamoms.—The export to India increased last year 100 per cent., but prices generally were lower. A slightly firmer tendency was noticeable as the year closed. The total exports exceeded those for 1899 by 37,496 lbs. More land is coming into bearing, and a heavier export must be looked for in 1901.

Cinchona.—This bark continues to decrease as regards quantity harvested and shipped, and some years must elapse before recent plantings tell.

Cinnamon.—The crops for 1900 were good, the result being an increase in export of quills to the extent of 163,080 lbs., and of chips to the extent of 34,279 lbs. Prices, notwithstanding the increased production, have been maintained.

The export of wild cinnamon, which for a short time threatened to injure sales of plantation and garden cinnamon, has now practically ceased. The value of wild cinnamon in London is barely sufficient to pay the freight and dock charges there. In one or two instances wild cinnamon-chips have been mixed to a small extent with usual chips, and exporters will have to very closely watch deliveries.

TELEGRAPH MONEY ORDERS.—On June 1, 1901, the telegraph money-order system will be extended to France (including Algeria).

Coming Events.

Monday, June 3.

Society of Chemical Industry (London Section), Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 p.m. Mr. G. C. Jones on "Gas-firing in Small Gasworks," and Dr. W. C. C. Pakes on the "Chemical Aspects of Bacteriology."

Thursday, June 6.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, W., at 9 p.m. Adjourned annual meeting to discuss the Shops (Early-closing) Bill.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, W., at 8 p.m. Papers to be read:—"A Laboratory Method for the Preparation of Ethylene," by G. S. Newth; "Oroxilin," by W. A. H. Naylor and C. S. Dyer; "Some Relations between Physical Constants and Constitution in Benzenoid Amines," II., by P. Gordon and L. Limpach; "The Constitution of the Acids obtained from *a*-dibromocamphor," by A. Lapworth and W. H. Lenton; "The Decomposition of Chlorates," IV, "The Supposed Mechanical Facilitation of the Decomposition of Potassium Chlorate," by W. H. Sodeau; "Condensation of Phenols with Esters of the Acetylene Series V.," "Homologues of Benzo-*y*-pyrone," by S. Ruhemann; "On the Action of Sodium Methoxide and its Homologues on Benzophenone Chloride and Benzal Chloride," by J. E. Mackenzie; "Preliminary Note on Hydrides of Boron," by W. Ramsay and H. S. Hatfield; "Gum Tragacanth," by C. O'Sullivan.

Friday, June 7.


Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 p.m. Professor R. Meldola on "Mimetic Insects."

MR. F. H. GLEW, chemist and radiographer, of 156 Clapham Road, London, has been appointed radiographer to the Lambeth Infirmary.

CHEMIST CHARGED WITH MANSLAUGHTER.—At a special sitting of the Wellingboro' Magistrates on Thursday, Octavius Edward Trezise, chemist, Wellingboro', was charged with the manslaughter of Agnes Robina Johnson on May 22. The circumstances have been fully reported in the *C. & D.* Mr. Heygate, the prosecuting solicitor, said that since the inquest the bottle of strychnine-mixture obtained from the prisoner by Inspector Brown had been analysed, and the mixture exactly corresponded with the contents of the bottle of cough-mixture sold to the mother of the deceased. Other evidence similar to the evidence at the inquest was given, and prisoner was committed to the assizes, bail being allowed.

A CHEMIST AND HIS DENTIST'S FEES.—In the City of London Court on Thursday, May 30, before Mr. G. Pitt-Lewis, K.C., Deputy-Judge, and a jury, a claim was made by Mr. Humby, dentist, 88 Newgate Street, E.C., to recover the sum of 4 guineas for professional services rendered to the defendant, Mr. J. Stevenson, chemist, Hastings. The defendant said that on several occasions he had introduced patients to the plaintiff. He took a French gentleman to him, and acted as correspondent and interpreter. The result was, he said, that plaintiff should make him a payment by way of commission for his loss of time. It was then agreed that the two teeth in question should be supplied to the Frenchman for half fees. The plaintiff could not remember the arrangement. The defendant said he had paid two guineas into court. The jury stopped the case, and found for the defendant whose costs were allowed.

DR. W. HARRISON MARTINDALE communicates to the *Lancet* of May 25 his results of analyses of stools and urine from epileptic patients under treatment with "hrominol" compared with similar specimens from patients under potassium bromide. The investigation was undertaken at the suggestion of Sir W. R. Gowers, who, in a prefatory note, says he has been "unable to obtain the same satisfactory results from the administration of Merck's bromopin, or the equivalent English preparation, as have been described by German observers, and it seemed desirable to ascertain whether any considerable amount of the oil-compound escaped absorption. The results give no support to the suspicion, and they confirm the statements made regarding the presence of bromine in the urine after the administration of the compound. The clinical observations on its influence are not yet sufficiently numerous or decisive to justify their publication. Dr. Martindale's results, however, are complete, and may wisely be made known." The paper occupies two pages, and the original should be referred to by those interested, as it cannot be condensed, and our space does not permit its insertion.



IRISH SUPPLEMENT TO THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

FIFTH YEAR.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1901.

No. 54.

Review of the Month.

THE monthly meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland was convened for May 1 at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, but insufficient Councillors attended to form a quorum, and so no meeting took place. The members who attended were the President (Mr. Beggs), the Vice-President (Mr. Bernard), and Messrs. Wells, Kelly, and Brown.

* * * *

THE case which the Pharmaceutical Society brought against Messrs. P. & H. Egan (Limited), Tullamore, under the second section of the Sale of Poisons [Ireland] Act, 1870, was, it will be remembered, dismissed. On May 3 the Pharmaceutical Society appealed against the Magistrates' decision, and a very important ruling was given in the Society's favour. The decision was to the effect that the defendants, although incorporated, came within the meaning of person. The full judgment is printed on page 44.

* * * *

A QUESTION was asked in the House of Commons on May 16 by Mr. Field, M.P. for St. Patrick's, Dublin, as to the advisability of establishing a Government laboratory in Ireland. It was contended that in certain cases the journey to the Somerset House Laboratory in Ireland rendered the articles almost unfit for analysis. Mr. Wyndham, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, replied: The number of articles sent from Ireland to the Government laboratory at Somerset House is very small, consisting usually of samples of milk and an occasional sample of whisky. The other articles are mainly drinking-waters. There is no reason to suppose that the time occupied by the journey renders the article "almost unfit for analysis."

* * * *

THE Select Committee of the House of Lords inquiring into the closing of shops on May 10 heard evidence from Mr. Peter MacEwan, Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, as to the steps he had taken to obtain the opinion of the trade on the Shops (Early-closing) Bill. The questions submitted to the Association were as follows:—

1. Do you agree that the early closing of shops by statute is desirable?
2. Does the local-option principle of Lord Avebury's Bill satisfy you as a practical proposal?
3. Will the exemption extended to chemists by Clause 9 jeopardise the freedom of the public in obtaining medicine at any hour?
4. Do you approve of the terms of Clause 9?

5. Would you alter Clause 9 in any way?

6. What is the common hour of closing pharmacies in your district?

Fifty-eight replies were received, and of those fifty-five were in favour of the Bill and only three against. The three Associations against the Bill were the Western Chemists' Association of London, the Chemists' Assistants' Association of London, and the Oxford and District Chemists' Association. At a previous meeting of the committee the Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain gave evidence as to the resolution passed by the Society on the subject of early closing, and to which reference was made in this column last month. We ought to mention that at the annual meeting of the Chemists' Assistants' Association exception was taken to the expressed views of the Council on this subject, and a night is to be devoted to a discussion by the members of the Association.

* * * *

A REMINDER of the near approach of the British Pharmaceutical Conference was given by the publication in the *C. & D.* of the research-list. The list is a fairly long one, and contains many undecided questions which suggest a variety of researches to those workers who have the necessary time and opportunity to work them out. Some of the questions are old stagers, whilst others have been suggested by recent additions to the Pharmacopœia. The local committee is busy with the arrangements for the meeting in Dublin, and on May 24 practically settled the details of how the time is to be filled with the sessions of the Conference and the social meetings. Subscriptions to the Guarantee Fund are coming in well, and hopes are expressed on all hands that the Fund will be large enough to ensure the visitors a real Irish *cead mille failte*.

* * * *

THE chemistry of cyanogen compounds has an especial interest to Irish chemists, on account of the Dublin decision that sulphocyanides are included in the poison-schedule. An article explaining the relationship of these compounds was given in the *C. & D.*, May 11, page 770. In this connection it may be mentioned the *Amateur Photographer* makes out that the prosecution of photographic dealers in Ireland for retailing ammonium sulphocyanide is a grievance. A suggestion has been made that an effort should be made to get the decision reversed; but our contemporary rightly surmises that this will be no easy matter.

* * * *

MR. T. F. HARVEY has been re-investigating the causes of instability in ethyl-nitrite solutions. The result of his

researches, published in the *C. & D.*, May 25, page 833, shows that three different causes of loss in strength of alcoholic solutions of ethyl nitrite can be distinguished. The three causes are (1) simple volatilisation, (2) decomposition by daylight, (3) decomposition by oxygen. These conclusions show that great care should be taken in storing the spirit; but the whole paper should be consulted by pharmacists who realise the importance of the subject.

* * * *

AN interesting description is given in the *C. & D.*, May 25, of a visit by Mr. F. L. Seely to the cinchona-plantations in Madras. The illustrations are unique. In the same number of the *C. & D.* an illustrated account is given of a visit to the Paris Municipal Bacteriological Laboratory presided over by Dr. Miquel. It is here that the bacteriological studies of the water and air of Paris are made. Among the correspondence published during the month is a letter from Dr. McWalter on the dose of thyroid preparations, which seems to show that the B.P. dose of thyroideum siccum is excessive.

Notes and News.

CORK EXHIBITION.—Arrangements are being made for the holding of an industrial exhibition at Cork next year, the scheme being approved of by the Government. The Glasgow exhibition is apparently a financial success, and Scotland is setting a good example to Ireland of how to run an exhibition successfully. A series of articles descriptive of the pharmaceutical and chemical exhibits of the Glasgow exhibition is being given in the *C. & D.*

MIST. SENNÆ CO.—According to a correspondent the addition of spt. ammon. co. to the formula of mist. sennæ co. in the new edition of the B.P. is objectionable. It is particularly so when ordered along with Donovan's solution, which frequently happens in Dublin, when a precipitate is thrown down of complicated formula. The remedy seems to be for the medical man to be careful to add "B.P. 1885" after mist. sennæ co.—a course which would be perfectly satisfactory if the usual run of medical men had an inkling of any chemical reaction likely to take place.

BACTERIOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—The proposal to establish a Bacteriological Institute in Dublin is meeting, according to the *Medical Press*, with support among the public bodies in Ireland. Sir Thomas Pile, at a meeting of the Dublin Corporation, spoke in support of the recommendation of the Public Health Committee that an institute be established in Ireland. The report of the Committee favours a national Bacteriological Institute, and it is suggested that the work of the Pathological Institute which it is proposed to establish in Dublin in connection with the lunatic-asylums might be assimilated with the Bacteriological Institute.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.—The annual meeting of the Dublin branch of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, held on May 4 in the hall of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, was but poorly attended. The Lord Lieutenant was in the chair, and gave an address on matters affecting the health of the people of Dublin. The question of sanitation in Ireland was one, he said, which would require the gravest consideration of all Irishmen. The President of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, the President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, the Registrar-General, and Professor A. Roche were amongst others who addressed the meeting.

THE DUBLIN DEATH-RATE.—Dr. J. C. McWalter, writing to the *Medical Press*, suggests the following as contributory causes to the ever-increasing death-rate of Dublin:—(1) The School-attendance Act, which causes parents, from dread of being fined, to send their children to school when breeding infectious diseases; (2) the increase of carbon monoxide in coal gas; (3) the risk of infection through pawning clothes; (4) the extensive use of tram-cars; (5) the dust-bin system of removing rubbish. A final suggestion is made that the

distribution of money among the wives of soldiers unaccustomed to receive money from their husbands may cause more drunkenness, and, as a consequence, a greater mortality amongst infants.

PROBATE OF THE WILL of the late Mr. C. N. Draper, principal of the firm of Messrs. Bewley & Draper, chemists and druggists, Mary Street, Dublin, and Consuelo, Cowper Road, Rathmines, who died on March 9, 1901, has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Mary Stewart Draper, and James Alexander Denning, 12 Trinity Street, Dublin, solicitor, and Peter Goode Hollway, Crumlin, Dublin. To the last-named the testator bequeathed 50%, and to his wife 300%, the use and enjoyment of his house and furniture, and the income during her widowhood of the residue of his property, or, in the event of her re-marriage, an annuity for the remainder of her life of 300%. Subject to her interest, testator left his residuary estate in trust for all or any of his children as Mrs. Draper may appoint, or in default of appointment in equal shares for all of his children. His estate has been valued at 12,827l. 2s. 8d.

MR. LUKE J. HEALY, chemist and druggist, West Street, Drogheda, died on May 21. Mr. Healy was registered on January 7, 1891, and was a well-known resident of Drogheda. In the early sixties he was a famous oarsman, and a member of the first rowing-club established in Drogheda—the Emerald R.C. After a few years the Drogheda R.C. was also founded, and, in conjunction with the late Dr. J. Bellew Kelly, Mr. Healy incorporated the Boyne Regatta, which has proved such a successful aquatic fixture. Mr. Healy, outside his profession, to which he was deeply attached, took no interest in political or public affairs, the interests of sport absorbing his spare time. The shops in the town were shuttered, and the flags of the shipping in the harbour floated at half-mast, in the interval between his death and the funeral on May 23. The funeral was the largest seen in Drogheda for some years.

SULPHOCYANIDES AS POISONS.—The following is the summary of the remarks on this subject from *The Amateur Photographer* referred to on page 41:—

In the first place, ammonium sulphocyanide is not a poison in any ordinary sense of the term, although by statute law we believe that it (like all compound cyanides) counts as a poison both in England and in Ireland. If this is the case, appeal to the higher Courts would be useless, as in appeal cases the letter of the law is usually upheld, and scant recognition is made of the good and safe old principle of the Roman jurists—that the law does not take cognisance of unimportant and trifling infractions. It would appear that those responsible for the Irish prosecutions have yet to learn the above fundamental principle of administration, but the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has, we believe, never yet instituted an altogether trivial and *pro forma* prosecution under the Poisons Act, and we do not think that this body is likely to take so ill-advised a course; hence retailers of sulphocyanide are not likely to be interfered with in Great Britain. If the Home Office were to prosecute every owner of a lucifer match, the eminently salutary Explosives Act would soon be repealed; again, if the Pharmaceutical Society were to prosecute every retailer of a penny box of child's paints, the Poisons Act would go, and we should soon have penny packets of vermin-killer and other dangerous poisons sold alongside groceries and provisions, as was the case forty years ago. Law-making is, was, and perhaps always will be, the most difficult of crafts, and, as far as we know, there is not any way of making a comprehensive and effective Explosives Act which shall not include the lucifer match, or a useful Poisons Act which shall not include compound cyanides. Good administration is consequently even more important than satisfactory laws, and those who are responsible for the Irish prosecutions are, by their ill-advised action, going the way to defeat their own aims.

The suggestion that ammonium sulphocyanide is not a poison in any ordinary sense of the term is ludicrous.

ACNE ROSACEA, it is suggested, may be advantageously treated with suprarenal extract. One 5-gr. tabloid is given twice daily, the number being increased to six each night. After hot bathing the face is painted with a solution of one soloid in a drachm of sterilised water. In the morning the following lotion is applied:—

Sulphur precip.	...	...	...	5iss.
Zinci oxidi	...	...	...	3ij.
Calamine	...	...	...	3iij.
Glycerini	...	...	...	3ij.
Aq. rosæ ad	3vj.

Paris Exhibition, 1900—British Awards.

GRAND PRIX

FOR

TOILET SOAP.

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Legal Cases.

The Tullamore Poisons Case.

IN the Dublin Court of King's Bench on May 3, before Lord O'Brien (Lord Chief Justice), Mr. Justice Andrews, and Mr. Justice Holmes, a case stated came on for hearing in which the complainant was Acting-Sergeant Michael Lawler, R.I.C., and the defendants Messrs. P. & H. Egan (Limited), merchants, Tullamore. On a previous occasion, Patrick Delaney, assistant in Messrs. Egan's, was convicted of selling corrosive sublimate, and on appeal to the superior Court the Magistrates were ordered to impose a penalty on Delaney, whereupon he was fined 5*l*. Then the company were proceeded against, but the Resident Magistrate dismissed the case, and ordered the acting-sergeant to pay Messrs. Egan 1*l*. costs. The contention for Messrs. Egan, was that they were not "a person" within the meaning the Act; that the Pharmaceutical Society should have been the complainant, not Lawler; and that the decision in the case of "The Pharmaceutical Society v. Boyd & Co." in 1896 governed this very case.

Mr. Featherstonhaugh, counsel for the defendants, said that the company should not be held liable now after a smart penalty had been imposed on their assistant.

Mr. Day, counsel for Lawler, said that Delaney was convicted under the 30th section of the Pharmacy Act of 1875, and he now asked that the company should be fined under the Poisons Act.

The Court reserved judgment until Thursday, May 9.

Mr. Justice Andrews delivered the following judgment. He said that the Resident Magistrate had dismissed the charge against the defendants (P. & G. Egan), holding that as an incorporated company they were not within the second section of the Act of 1870 (Sale of Poisons [Ireland] Act), under which the charge was brought. That was the only question argued before the Court, an objection to the right of the complainant (Lawler) to prosecute in his personal capacity having been abandoned. Section 17 of the English Pharmacy Act corresponded with the second section of the Irish Act of 1870, and in a case heard in the House of Lords, Lord Selborne (then Lord Chancellor) said that the word "person" must be held, in reference to the sale of any poison by wholesale or retail, to include a corporation "if the sale was made by any apprentice, or servant, on behalf of a corporation." Lord Blackburn concurred, and Lord Watson expressed no dissent from that judgment. Lord Selborne's construction of Section 17 of the English Act was, no doubt, a *dictum* which was not absolutely necessary for the decision of the case before the House of Lords; but it was a considered opinion. That Court agreed with the construction so given to "person," and they construed Section 2 of the Irish Act in the same way. The decision of the Court, therefore, would be that the defendants, although incorporated, came within that section, and that the Resident Magistrate was not correct in point of law in his determination. They accordingly quashed the finding, and remitted the case back to the Petty Sessions Court to proceed according to law, and to impose on the defendants such penalty as might be just and proper under the circumstances. The Lord Chief Justice, who was not able to be present, authorised him to say that he concurred. No costs would be given to either side.

Mr. Justice Gibson said he concurred.

A Pick-me-up.

ON May 9 in the Dublin Court of King's Bench, before Mr. Justice Johnson and Mr. Justice Kenny, in the case of Caldwell v. Achesons, Mr. Chambers, B.L., applied on behalf of the defendants, well-known druggists in Portadown, to have the action remitted for hearing before the County Court Judge of Armagh. He said the action was brought by James Caldwell, provision-merchant, Birkenhead, to recover damages caused by the alleged "negligence of the defendants, their manager and servants, in the compounding and vending of a certain medicine to the plaintiff, and for breach of warranty that the medicine supplied to the plaintiff was reasonably fit for the purposes for which the said medicine was sold by the defendants." The medicine was a "pick-me-up."

Various affidavits were put in. One by John Sweeney, manager of the defendants' drug-department, stated that the plaintiff entered the shop about 11 o'clock in the morning, and asked for a "pick-me-up." He (the manager)

judged from Caldwell's appearance that he had been drinking heavily, and gave him 5 dr. of liquor ammoniac acetatis diluted with water. Caldwell then said he would like to go to the yard, and he (Mr. Sweeney) took him out and sat him down on a barrel. Caldwell said he had been drinking heavily, and had got a "few feeds of bad drink." Caldwell soon after asked for an emetic, which he (Mr. Sweeney) prepared with warm water, and told him he should wait for fifteen minutes until it acted. Caldwell next expressed a wish to have a sleep, and he was brought to an outhouse where there was some straw. In a quarter of an hour Caldwell came back to the shop and said he was nearly all right, but that the emetic had not acted. He (Mr. Sweeney) suggested that the plaintiff should go back to the outhouse, but he refused, remarking that he had to catch a train; and he left, having thanked him (Mr. Sweeney) for his attention.

The plaintiff's affidavit stated that on January 14 he arrived in Portadown from Omagh about 10 o'clock, and after looking at some shops he felt ill. He then went into defendants' premises and asked for a "pick-me-up," for which he paid 4*d*. The assistant made up a mixture, which he (Caldwell) swallowed, and immediately he felt a burning and choking sensation in the throat. Seeing a door opening into a yard, he asked if he might go into the open air. The assistant followed him out and inquired if he was not well, and they brought him out an emetic. He lay down in a shed for a time, and then went back to the shop and said that his throat was all burned. The assistant said he had given him acetate of ammonia, and then he gave plaintiff some sweets to cool his mouth. Plaintiff next went to the nearest doctor, who gave him three emetics, and he vomited large quantities of blood. He was not able to leave Portadown for five days, and he was still suffering from the effects of an acrid poison. His mouth, throat, gullet, and stomach were burned, and he was unable to take solid food.

Dr. Orr made an affidavit, in which he stated he saw the plaintiff two days after, and found him suffering from the effects of a caustic poison. The mucous membrane was burned off the mouth and throat, and was hanging in shreds. The mouth, throat, and gullet were swollen, and he was evidently in great pain. He vomited a quantity of blood. The injuries could not be caused by a drug such as Mr. Sweeney stated he had given him, and they must have been produced by a strong acid. The plaintiff was now suffering from chronic affection of the throat and deafness in the right ear, and was not likely to recover for some time.

The Court said that in view of Dr. Orr's affidavit they would not call on counsel for the plaintiff to reply. The motion would be refused, with 5*l*. 5*s*. costs.

Wages Recovered.

SIR HENRY COCHRANE, director of Messrs. Thacker & Hoffe's drug and chemical concern, Dublin, appeared before the Recorder's Court on May 21 as defendant in an action brought against him by one of his employés to recover a month's wages and other moneys alleged to be due. The defence was that the plaintiff had unduly absented himself from work and was otherwise unsatisfactory. The Recorder held that the plaintiff was wrongfully dismissed, and gave a decree for 3*l*.

The Personation-case.

IN the Nisi Prius Court, Dublin, recently, the case of Joseph Haddock, tutor, who was charged with fraudulent personation of two medical students at the Preliminary examination of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, came on for hearing. The question raised was whether, on the evidence given for the prosecution, any offence known to the Common Law had been revealed. The Lord Chief Justice said Haddock defrauded the College, holding a statutory test, and he also defrauded the public by substituting an incompetent for a competent man. On behalf of Haddock, it was urged that a candidate might be unable to pass the English examination, and yet might become a most skilful medical man. The Lord Chief Baron was of opinion that the case was one for a criminal prosecution. In "cribbing" the great crime lay in being found out. Judgment was reserved.

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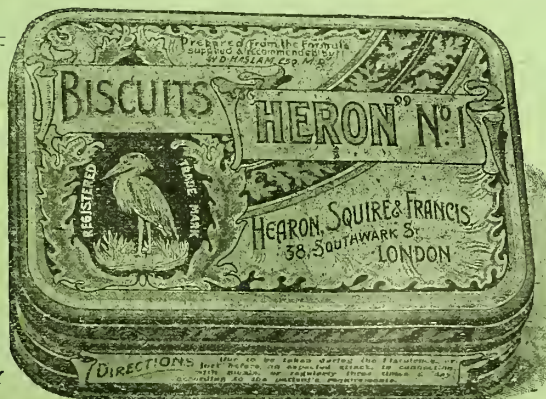
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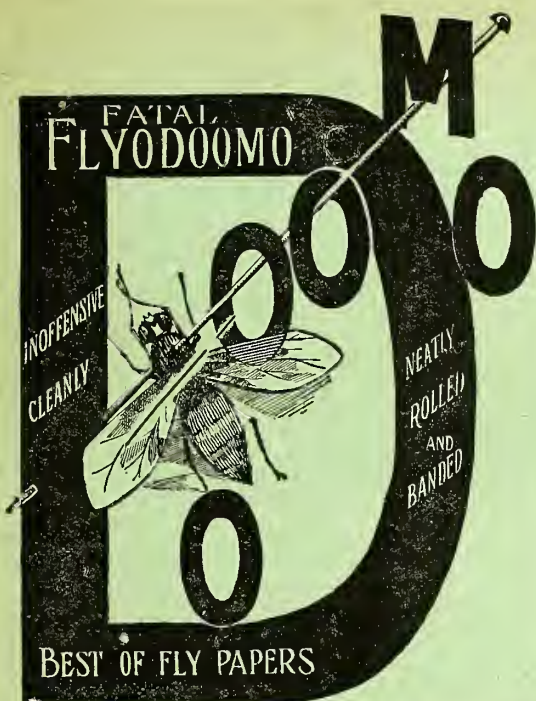
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